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The Barber's Lament.

"Fair maiden, will thou shear my face?"
A love-sick barber cried:
"Oh, no," said she, "I cannot be
A little shaver's bride."

"Thy lip, pomade, doth wound me deep
And cutteth sharp and keen;
Soap precious art thou to my heart,
Which hones no other queen.

"And since to be my bonny bride
Thou wilt not condescend,
I fear my days have run their race
And reached their lather end.

"This form must crumble in the dust,
These lips in death grow dumb;
This barber's mug, so fair and snug,
Mustachen pale become."

—*Cincinnati Evening Star.*

Epigrams.

I.

A pompous attorney, while trying a cause,
Was quizzing a witness and looking for flaws.
The witness, who owed him a personal grudge
Provoked him until he appealed to the judge
"I demand, sir," he cried, with a fiery-red face,
"A little attention while trying this case."
"Your honor," responded the meek little man,
"I'm paying as little as any one can."
The judge, with a frown,
Looked solemnly down
On the squabble, and said, from the bench where he sat,
"We want nothing but silence, and little of that."

II.

Said young Romeo Butts to Miss Claribel Cutts,
(As they stood in a parlor resplendent with light),
With a wearisome sigh, "Oh, I cannot tell why,
But somehow, I feel like a fool here to-night."
Said Miss Claribel Cutts to Romeo Butts,
With a pitiless smile that she could not conceal:
"Yes, your face would betray, I am sure, what you say,
For you certainly look all you say that you feel."

III.

"Oh, husband!" said Mrs. Ophelia McMunn,
As she gazed at her willful and passionate son
"Where that boy got his temper, I never could see;
I'm certain he never could take it from me."
"No doubt, my dear wife, your assertion is true—
I never have missed any temper from you."

—*Chicago Tribune.*

THE STORY OF TWO SINGERS.

An Italian vessel had reached the shores of America. The passengers had landed. The wealthy had been taken to their hotels or their friends' homes in carriages. The poor folk, who still had some certain destination and some one to greet and meet, had been led away under friendly guidance, after many embraces and much gesticulation, or had taken cars and omnibusses for the purpose of reaching their homes and the welcome that awaited them. Some, poor and forlorn, were wandering vaguely about the Battery—the prey of emigrant boarding-housekeepers—and one, poorest and most forlorn of all, sat upon a bench under a great tree and wept silently. She was a woman. She was young and of the peasant class. Her husband had died upon the voyage. She had not a friend in America, and some thief had stolen her purse from under her pillow, as she slept between her little children in her berth in the steerage.

She had only a great bag, with a few shabby garments, and these two children, and a pair of earrings, which she might, perhaps, sell for a little bread—in all the world. As she stared out upon the water, which had swept away the body of her dead husband, and which still covered it, she was very miserable.

"If it had been the Lord's will that I also should be buried in the sea," she sobbed. "I and my children." And she bent her head upon her hands; her eyes were blinded with tears; she saw nothing of what was going on just then.

"Mother!" cried the eldest child. "Mother, look. The bad boy has carried off our bag."

The poor creature started to her feet. She stared wildly about her. A boy was running away at full speed with the bag of clothes on his back. Uttering a scream, she began to run at full speed. People stared at her, but did not know why she ran, or understand that the interpretation of her cry was "stop thief." The boy outran her very soon; her breath failed her. She saw him turning a corner of the street, and regardless of the wagons, cars and carriages in her path, dashed across the road. There was a cry—a crash; a policeman strode out upon the crossing and stopped the vehicles, and the body of the Italian woman was lifted from the ground; her black hair fell over her shoulders, her eyes were fixed, her face pallid, and the yellow kerchief about her head soaked in blood. No one knew anything about her. They carried her to the hospital; thence to the morgue. Afterward she was buried where they bury paupers.

When their mother ran after the thief, the little girls sat where she had left them, for awhile; each was playing with something. To amuse them their mother had given them her earrings—two hoops of gold.

They had their own little ears pierced, but as yet there were only threads in them. Their father had promised that, when he made his fortune, they should have gold earrings like their mother's. But their father was buried in the sea, and their mother was poor. It did not seem likely they should ever have any of those nice things that they had been promised when they came to America. However, children are light hearted, and they were on land again and not stuffed into the steerage of the crowded ship; and they had no doubt that their mother would catch the boy with the bag. They played with the earrings and stared at the pedestrians and at the carriages, with no anxieties about their mother, until they grew hungry. Then the youngest began to cry.

"Mother stays a long while," said the eldest. "Let us go and look for her, and tell her we want supper." And away they went, hand in hand, each clutching her earring.

The eldest was a handsome girl of eight; the youngest a little six-year-old beauty, wonderful to contemplate. They spoke only Italian, of course. As they wandered on looking for their mother, and growing more and more frightened at every step, there came marching up Broadway a military procession. The bugles blared, the drums beat, the banners waved, a crowd of hangers-on tramped over the sidewalk. Rough men and boys took no heed of the little girls, and they were at last separated. The eldest was helplessly pushed forward by the crowd; the little one, who had clung to the railings of a restaurant, was left behind.

"When the procession and the crowd had passed, she still sat there, weeping bitterly. "What a beautiful child," said many, and one or two spoke to her, but she did not understand, and could not answer them. At last there came along the street an old Italian with an organ on his back, and a monkey perched upon it. He paused in front of the restaurant and held out his hand to the child.

"What has happened to the pretty little girl? Has she lost herself?" he asked; and the child, glad to hear words that she could comprehend, told him her story.

The old man listened kindly.

"Dry your tears, pretty one," he said. "We will find your mother, and meanwhile, you shall have supper with me and my monkey. See what a fine monkey. He will shake hands with you. Pepa, shake hands with the pretty little girl, and bow."

The monkey put out one brown paw and took off his velvet cap by the crown with the other.

His pranks amused the child. She trotted along by the side of the organ-grinder, and had macaroni with him in a dismal little room in a terrible old tenement house. She had no doubt that he could find her mother for her—her mother and her little sister Francesca; for Bianca was only six years old, and at that age we are always hopeful. But the old man who, after the frugal supper, went about to do what he could to find the child's mother, soon learned the truth. He knew Bianca was the child of the poor woman who had been killed; and though he kept the knowledge to himself with a dread of mysterious evil, personal consequences peculiar to foreigners who do not quite understand the laws of the land—and scarcely to be wondered at—he generously resolved to take care of the little girl, to whom he did not tell the truth. Bianca believed that her mother would soon come back, until she forgot her grief; but the old man bought a little bit of black ribbon and suspended to it the solitary earring.

"Never part with it," he said. "It is a memento of your mother, pretty one."

He had a little poetry in his breast, as most Italians have, though he was only a poor organ-grinder.

Every day when he went out with his monkey and his organ, he took the child with him. She held the plate, into which the patrons of this cheap concert dropped their coin.

After awhile, he taught her to sing some little songs. Italian children can always sing; and it was no loss to him to have adopted this little creature, for he never made half as much before. The child brought him luck. One day a musician heard her sing, and offered to teach her to sing better. Her voice was full and rich. She studied carefully. She was beautiful and attractive. As she grew up the old man began to see that he must no longer take her into the street. "Stay at home, pretty one," he said. "Study at the school. A better fate awaits you than to sing before windows and catch pennies in a platter."

The girl was glad to obey. She worked harder than ever to improve. She kept the poor place neat; she cooked her adopted father's meals and made her own cheap garments neatly. Hope rose high within her, but, alas! misfortune was at hand. The old man made very little, now that his young singer was not with him. One day the monkey was killed by a larger one, who threw it from the ropes where the two dangled together—ropes swung from pulley-lines fastened to the windows of the houses. Poor Pepa was thrown to the pavement below, and his neck broken. Bread grew scarce, and the old man, lamed with rheumatism, could scarcely carry his organ about; and, at last, the hope that had inspired both perished in an hour. The kind musician died; the free music lessons were over forever, and they could never pay for instruction.

One day Bianca found her father, as she called him, actually ill, and their humble means of subsistence at an end for the present.

"Forever," said Bianca to herself, "if I cannot earn his bread in his age, as he has earned mine in my youth. Surely, even my little knowledge of music is of some avail."

Sitting with her head upon her hands, she remembered the beautiful young prima donna who sang at the opera, and whose voice she had heard through the open window of a certain great hotel.

"She is said to be charitable," she said; "at least she would tell a poor girl if it might be possible for her to earn her living by her voice; where to apply; what to do." And, full of that ardent trust in human nature which is part of youth, she tied on her poor little hat, and made her way through the wretched streets in which she lived to the great thoroughfare in which stood the hotel which was the prima donna's home.

"Can I see signora?" she asked timidly of a servant who answered her timid ring.

"Well, it isn't likely, young woman," said the man; "she's just going out to ride. Does she know you?"

"No," said the poor girl; "but"—

"Oh—begging, or something, I suppose," said the man. "No, you can't."

"Let me be the judge," said a soft voice; and a beautiful lady clad in velvet swept toward her. "What have you to say to me?" she asked, kindly.

And Bianca was about to reply when she suddenly caught sight of something pendent from a chain which the lady wore that struck her dumb. It was an earring—a hoop of gold—the mate to that about poor Bianca's neck. She remembered how her mother had given one to each of them to quiet them on that day when she sat desolate upon a foreign shore. Strange fancies filled her mind. Could this be Francesca? If it were, would she not despise the poor organ-grinder's adopted child?—an ignorant girl, so shabby that the servants took her for a beggar.

"Come along with me, my child," said the beautiful young lady. "At least you are of my country. I know it by your accent. We have that tie, Come."

She led her to her sumptuous apartment, and closed the door.

"Now, let me know what you came for," she said, smiling.

Bianca bent her head, trembling.

"I came for something else," she said, but I can only think of one thing now—that hoop upon your chain. What is it? Where did you get it? And you look—oh! you look—you are like"—She faltered and paused.

"This bit of gold," said the lady, "is all I have to remind me of my lost mother. I wear it for that. And besides—I have been told that it may be a means of—of"— She broke off and covered her face with her hands. "Why did you notice the ring?" she said. "Of whom do I remind you?"

"Of my mother," said Bianca. "My mother, who on the day of our arrival in this country, left me with my sister upon the Battery. She was killed in the street, though I did not know of it for years afterward. An old man—good and kind, but very poor—cared for me. I never saw my sister again. I came to see you, signora, to ask you what one could do with a good voice and love for music, but with little musical education. I heard you were charitable, but—Oh, signora, what does it mean? As we sat on that bench on the Battery, my sister and I, our mother gave us each one of her golden earrings to play with. See! I have mine yet."

She drew it from her bosom.

"Your name?" cried the prima donna.

"Bianca," said the girl.

"I am Francesca!" cried the other.

She held out her arms, and the next moment the two girls sobbed upon each other's bosom.

Francesca had been adopted by a rich man, who had developed her great talent by all the means in his power. And now she herself was winning fame and fortune. A great joy had come to her in the restoration of her sister, and she took her at once and forever to her heart and home.

And the old Italian, in the comfort of a luxurious home and the society of his adopted daughter, who soon followed in her sister's footsteps, and became a great singer, found himself well repaid for his kindness to the orphan child, and ended his days in peace and happiness.

Gold is still found in quartz in California. All you need is to have somebody to pint it out.

Scott's Poetry in Western Prose.

The train had withdrawn from the castle, but Marmion lingered behind to bid adieu to Douglass. "Though something might be explained," he said, "of cold respect to a gentleman sent hither by your king's behest, while in Tantallion's towers I stayed, part me in friendship and noble earl, receive my hand."

But Douglass was out of sorts, and taking another reef in the band of his ulster, said;

"My dear sir, my manors, halls, towers, et cetera and so forth, are open at my sovereign's will to whoever he desires to send hither, no matter how unworthy such a one may be to stand in the presence of the gentleman who now has the floor," and he looked Marmion straight in the eye.

"My castles are my king's alone," he continued, "from cupola to the basement kitchen, but the hand of Douglass is his own and never shall in friendship clasp the hand of such as Marmion carries so jauntily in the breast of his cutaway." So saying he thrust his hands in his pantaloons pockets and turned on his heel.

Marmion was the maddest man in town. His swarthy cheek burned until it was red as a lobster and shook his very frame for ire. "And this to me!" he yelled; "an' 'twere not for thy gray hairs such hand as Marmion had not spared to cleave the Douglass head as if struck by lightning, and I'm not so sure but I'll do it anyhow! And I tell thee haughty peer, he who does England's message bring, although the meanest politician in the country, may well, 'rond Angus, be thy mate! And furthermore, my gentle gazella, even in thy pitch of pride, here in thy hold, thy vassals and lick-spittles near—take your hand out of your hip pocket or I'll smash you—I tell thee thou are defied! And if thou saidst I am not peer to any lord in Scotland, Lowland or Highland, rich or poor, Lord Angus, you're a liar!" and he shook his fist under the Douglass nose.

It was now Douglass' turn to get mad, and he improved the excellent opportunity offered. At first he turned white and purple about the gills, and his ears wagged in awful silence. Then he broke forth:

"Darest thou to beard a family of royal Bengal tigers in their den, the Douglass in his hall? And hopest thou thence unscathed to go? No; by Saint Patrick of Bothwell, no! Up drawbridge, grooms! What, warder! let the portcullis fall, and be lively about it, while I take it out of the fellow's hide!"

The warder and grooms were on deck in an instant, but a moment was lost in running to the kitchen to get the key of the portcullis from the hired girl. Lord Marmion turned—well was his need—and dashed the rowels in his mule, that shot like an arrow through the archway, and kicked the top of the portcullis as it descended behind him. The mule along the drawbridge clattered just as it trembles on the rise. In the words of an unknown poet:

Not swifter does the swallow skim
Along the smooth lake's level brim.

When Lord Marmion reached his band, where he knew he was comparatively safe, he turned around in the saddle and yelled at the top of his voice: "I'll see you later—when I do," and shook his gauntlet at the towers.—*Detroit Free Press.*

Life Among the Comanches.

An American who has been studying the life, habits and traits of the Comanches, thinks that there are at present from 10,000 to 12,000, of whom about 2,500 are warriors. Wholly nomadic, they have no villages or fixed inhabitations, but roam and plunder 800 to 900 miles from north to south and 700 from east to west. They own large herds of horses and mules, obtaining horned cattle only for their immediate wants, because they cannot drive these as fast as they want to move. All their animals are procured by robbing the Mexicans and Americans, and all their wars are undertaken more for plunder of this sort than for any other purpose. They never take men prisoners, though they kill and scalp them; but they carry off women and children; make wives of the former, and rear the latter as their own. They have never had any permanent places of abode, as the absence of all mounds or tumuli in the territory they range over clearly proves. They seem to have been born on horseback, where they do all their fighting; and in attacking trains they always endeavor to stampede the animals by cries and war-whoops—a stampede rendering destruction of a train almost certain. If they attack a village, they kill everybody they encounter, and they drive off the stock. The chiefs of these Indians do not inherit their authority, but acquire it by superior knowledge, personal bravery, or success in war. Any social disagreement is adjusted by a council of chiefs and seniors of the lodges; but those disagreements are few, and family feuds are rare. Indeed, they live together more harmoniously than many civilized people do. Of law they have no notion, nor have they any conception of national policy. They never observe treaties any longer than self-interest prompts, in which they resemble most enlightened peoples. Their religious ideas are very crude and indefinite. In an evil spirit they do not believe, but ascribe both good and evil to the good spirit. Their conception of a future life is indistinct; but they hold that men who have stolen the most horses and taken the most scalps will have the best chance of happy hunting-grounds in another world. Fire is sacred with them, and is used in all their religious observances. Ties of kindred are very strong, and extend not only to relatives by blood, but by marriage. Offenses against any member of a family are avenged by all or any one connected with it. They are polygamists, some chiefs have ten or twelve wives. The husband exercises absolute dominion over the wife, who does all the work while he fights and steals. Going into a fight they divest themselves of everything except breech-cloth and leggings. They call themselves Naiini, meaning live, or first-alive people.

"Lost—Two Golden Hours."

The following interesting letter we take from the correspondence column of the New York *Evening Post:*

"During the summer of 1875, after passing through the parks and grounds of the late Sir William Stirling-Maxwell, near Bridge of Allen, I was highly favored by an interior view and inspection of the castle and castles of his construction, and of his noble ancestors, a favor that one could scarcely expect outside of his circle of acquaintances. In the day nursery was this motto, that I have since desired to learn the origin of. If any of your many readers can aid me, it will be an esteemed favor to know whether it may have been original with him or not:

"'Lost.
"'Somewhere between sunrise and sunset,
Two Golden Hours,
Each set with sixty diamond minutes.
No reward is offered,
As they are gone forever.'

"The beauty and propriety of these few words have lingered in my mind and given zest to my daily efforts. I hope that they may be of use to others, through your valuable columns."

A FRUIT GROWER'S MURDER.

Sacramento's Public Administrator Convicted of the Crime—How and Why It was Committed.

In the trial of Troy Dye, ex-public administrator of Sacramento county, Cal., for the murder of A. M. Tullis, a wealthy fruit grower of Grand island, near Sacramento, the jury, after twenty minutes' deliberation, brought in the verdict, "Guilty of murder in the first degree."

The crime was committed on the night of August 1st, of last year. Its object was to enable Dye, in his capacity as public administrator, to get hold of Tullis' estate, the latter's heirs living at a distance. At the time of his death Tullis was the largest fruit grower on the Sacramento river, having one large orchard and large interests in two others. His gains in the fruit season were at the rate of a thousand dollars a day, and he had accumulated from $80,000 to $100,000 before his body was found cold and stiff in his orchard on the morning of August 2d. When Dye, as public administrator, applied for letters of administration, he rated the estate at $50,000, his object being to secure all over that amount. The killing of Tullis on any other ground being objectless, the theory was formed, soon after the murder, that either his relatives had committed the crime to secure the estate as his heirs, or that Dye had done the deed to take possession as public administrator. As Tullis' relatives—a brother and a nephew—were from 300 to 3,000 miles from the scene, suspicion fastened upon Dye, who was discovered to be in the neighborhood of Tullis' ranch the night of the murder. He was arrested on August 12th. As he had up to that time borne an irreproachable reputation his arrest was a shock to the community. Two days later he made a confession of the crime in the presence of the district attorney and others. The murder was not committed by him, but by Clark, his partner in a saloon venture, and by Anderson, a former employee in Dye's butcher shop, Dye having other occupations besides that of public administrator. Anderson, being arrested, also made a confession. Dye said that he first thought of killing Tullis in the spring, having heard of the wealth the fruit grower was acquiring. At that time Anderson offered to kill any one Dye would name for $100, and he confessed to the committal of two murders already.

After Dye made up his mind to murder Tullis, he enlisted Clark as well as Anderson, and the first endeavor was to bribe Tullis. Clark visited the fruit grower on pretense of business, and left behind as a parting present a bottle, ostensibly containing a choice cordial, but which really contained poison. For some reason this scheme miscarried, and then it was determined to waylay Tullis and shoot him. A boat was built at Dye's house in Sacramento, in which Anderson and Clark rowed to Tullis' fruit ranch, which was on an island, while Dye waited for them on the main bank. This was toward evening on August first. After they had landed Clark concealed himself while Anderson went to look for Tullis, who presently came near where Clark was lying. Anderson asked Tullis for work, but was told that Chinamen were preferred. He managed to get behind Tullis, so that he could strike him with a sandbag. Although shaken by the blow, Tullis closed with Anderson, while the dog tore the assassin's trousers and barked. Clark, coming to the rescue, fired at Tullis with a pistol, but apparently missed. Saying to Anderson, "Stand back," Clark fired again, hitting Tullis in the back. Putting the pistol to the back of Tullis' head, he fired again. Tullis fell on his face. Anderson had already run to the boat, and Clark then followed. The two rowed back in the boat, which they then broke up and threw into the river. Anderson also tore up and destroyed his trousers, thinking there was blood on them. They then met Dye, who carried them back to Sacramento.

Hat Poisoning.

An "Old Hatter" writes to the Newark (N. J.) *Advertiser:* In your paper of the 29th ult., there was an article headed "How Hatters are Poisoned." The men are afflicted with a nervous shaking of the hands and arms, and sometimes of the head; and I have known instances where the teeth could be picked out with the fingers. In many cases they are unable to get a cup to their lips without help. The affliction is called "The Shakes," and, as stated, is charged to the "carrot" used on the fur. It is made by saturating nitric acid with quicksilver, to one part of which an eighth of water is used to wet the fur on the skins, and when dry a hot iron is passed over them, which gives the fur a yellow tinge called yellow carrot. This has been used ever since hat bodies have been made of fur, and until of late without any bad effects, and in some of the large factories the men are not troubled. I believe the workmen on fancy colors are exempt from them, although the same carrot is used—only the ironing is omitted and is called white carrot. But I suspect the black color has much to do with the trouble. The salts of copper are all poison, and they abound in the dust from the hats; especially in badly-ventilated rooms, which are where the "shakes" are found to prevail in the winter and disappear as the weather will permit of free ventilation in the spring.

The writer has worked at the business many years in the largest factories, has made the carrot and used it without being in the least affected by it, and feels satisfied that some other cause must be at the bottom of the trouble. The furs are now nearly all prepared in Europe, and some other chemicals may be used, but I think not. I find in Ure's Dictionary of the Arts the same formula. The use of carrot on the fur is to make its felt close and firm, which raw stock will not do. I would suggest to the doctor to see if arsenic may not be the cause. Examine the verdigris used for it.

Nearly all the hats worn in the United States are made in Newark, Orange, Danbury, Norwalk and Brookline, amounting to many millions of dollars yearly, and employing thousands of men and women, New York being the great center of distribution for all the country.

A Locomotive in a Quicksand.

The Leavenworth (Kan.) *Times* says: Mention was made in the *Times* during the summer of a singular accident which occurred on the Kansas Pacific road at the bridge crossing Kiowa creek, forty-two miles east of Denver, in which an engine attached to a freight train went through the bridge into the bed of the creek, instantly disappearing in the quicksand and baffling all attempts to recover it. For the past six months the search for the missing locomotive has been kept up, resulting in success two or three days ago, when it was found buried forty feet deep in the quicksand. The sand had been removed for a great number of yards around the scene of the disappearance of the engine, a hydraulic ram being used, the locomotive being found at last after a search of six months. The instance is one of the most remarkable on record.

DISASTERS DURING 1878.

An Appalling Record of Loss of Life on Land and Sea.

The record of the disasters of 1878 is an appalling one. On September 3, the iron screw collier Bywell Castle crashed into the slightly-built excursion steamer Princess Alice, as both were rounding the bend of the Thames at Tripcock's point, and sank her almost instantly. Exactly how many lives were lost will never be known. Seven hundred is a low estimate, and as the majority were women and children out for a day's pleasuring, the collision is certainly the most distressing in marine history. The report of the official inquiry declared that the collision was caused by the bad and careless steering of the Princess Alice.

On March 25, the Eurydice capsized in a squall off Dunnose, isle of Wight, as she was within half an hour of her anchorage, and carried down, in sight of their homes, 300 lads who were being trained for the British navy. There were but two survivors; but happily their testimony established that the disaster was due solely to the danger of the sea.

The German navy also suffered a severe loss. On the last day of May, a squadron was engaged in naval maneuvering in the English channel, when the Grosser Kurfurst struck and sunk the Koenig Wilhelm as they were wearing ship to avoid a merchantman. Two hundred and ninety lives were lost, including thirteen officers. The verdict attributed the collision to a "mistake" of the Koenig Wilhelm's helmsman.

On the night of November 25, the iron bark Moel Eilian ran down and sank the Pommerania, one of the finest steamers of the Hamburg-American line. About fifty-five lives were lost by this collision.

Seventeen lives were lost by the collision on October 31, off Tuscar light, between the National line steamship Helvetia and the British cutter Fanny; and about 150 by the Byzantin-Rinaldo collision in the Dardanelles on the night of December 18.

An explosion of fire-damp in the Abercorn colliery, South Wales, on September 11, caused 251 deaths.

On October 11, the audience of the Colosseum theater, in Liverpool, in their mad rush for escape from the building at a careless or malicious but entirely groundless alarm of fire, trampled thirty-seven of their number to death.

In this country there were but few marine disasters. On the 31st of January, in the same southeast gale which caused the loss of seven lives at Manhattan beach by sweeping several houses into Sheepshead bay, the Metropolis, bound to Para, went ashore on Carrituck beach, on the North Carolina coast, and about twenty miles north of the scene of the wreck of the ill-fated Huron. Ninety-one lives were lost.

Murder or manslaughter, however, are the only words properly descriptive of the loss of fifteen lives by the explosion of the Adelphi's boilers on the 28th of September, near Gregory's point, in Long Island sound. On the inquest it was shown that the boiler needed patching within a month after its inspection, and that it exploded within a month after the repairs. The iron of the boiler was only one-half the reported thickness, and near the rupture it was actually the thickness of one-second of an inch thick.

Twenty lives were lost by the collision on December 1, between the Mississippi river steamers Cotton Valley and Charles Morgan, and thirty six by the foundering on December 10, of the Emily B. Sonder, on her trip from New York city to Kingston, Jamaica.

A shocking disaster, which cannot be called an accident, was the collision on October 8, of an excursion train on the Old Colony railroad with a freight train which was being switched. Twenty-two persons were killed and 120 were wounded. The inquest found conductors of both trains and the engineer of one, guilty of negligence; and as one conductor testified that he was switching his train because he "supposed" the excursion train had passed, and when he saw it approaching, sent out no signals because he "supposed" the engineer had done so, he was held and indicted, but has not yet been punished for manslaughter. The accident is estimated to cost the railroad company $325,000. Another engineer employed by the Pittsburgh, Cincinnati and St. Louis company, whose watch was slow, but who "supposed" he had time to go on, killed fifteen persons by dashing his train into another on August 7.

The list of railroad accidents may be closed by the breaking under an excursion train of the bridge over the Farmington river, on the line of the Connecticut Western railroad. This occurred on January 16, and it is not yet certain whether the bridge broke because it was not originally strong enough or because it had been suffered to decay, or whether the accident was not caused by train-wreckers.

Flax Culture.

The common flax is a native of Egypt or possibly the elevated plains of central Asia, but though no doubt a native of warm climates, the fiber attains its greatest fineness and perfection in temperate regions; the seed being richer in the tropics. Flax is more extensively and more successfully cultivated in Belgium than in any other European country, particularly in East and West Flanders, in which the most beautiful flax in Europe is produced, being employed for the manufacture of the famous Brussels lace, and sold for this purpose at $500 to $900 per ton. Immense quantities of an inferior product are also raised and exported from Russia, especially from the countries bordering on the Baltic. The cultivation of flax was introduced into Ireland from the low countries before the close of the seventeenth century. Flax has been cultivated from time immemorial as a winter crop in India, but only for its seed, and not at all for its fiber.

The estimated production of flax in Russia in 1868, was 193,000 tons; in 1869, 300,000 tons. In Holland there were in 1869, 66,272 statute acres under flax, producing 13,921 tons; in 1870, 60,520 acres, producing 8,918 tons. In Belgium, there were at the latest official census, 142,612 acres under flax, producing 29,582 tons. In Prussia, in 1870, throughout the eight old provinces 346,300 acres under flax, while in Austria there were in 1871, 253,730 acres under flax, producing 44,523 tons. In Hungary, the yield was 18,150 tons. The average acreage appropriated to the growth of flax in France, is 160,550 statute acres, and about 15,000 acres are sown with flax in Egypt every year. The entire produce in Ireland has never exceeded 64,506 tons (1864), and it has sunk as low as 12,929 tons (in 1871). The acreage under flax in Ireland in 1864, was 301,698; in 1868, 206,446, and in 1871, 156,883. The acreage under flax, however, is not always an accurate guide to the produce, since in 1871, 156,883 acres produced only 13,612 tons of flax, while in 1872, 122,003 acres produced 18,920 tons. In 1872 there were 14,011 acres under flax in England, eighty-four in Wales, and 1,262 in Scotland. In 1870 the United States produced 13,567 tons of flax, of which quantity the State of Ohio alone raised 8,940 tons. Thirty-two States produce flax in large or small quantities.

TIMELY TOPICS.

Herman Scheel, with one assistant, has taken $18,000 from his mine, near Silver City, Nevada, in five months.

Iceboats are used on the Hudson at Newburg, to transport passengers across the river, and they send along at the rate of sixty miles an hour.

Gueting, a murderer in prison at Indianapolis, being visited in his solitary cell by a mouse, caught his visitor and amused himself by torturing it to death.

A caller on Senator Burnside o Rhode Island, recently found him writing a speech on the army bill, using as stimulants a pot of hot tea and a music box, which he now and then wound up.

The proportion of soldiers who can read and write in the several armies of Europe is as follows: Germany, 965 in 1,000; Sweden, 930; England, 860; Holland, 750; Belgium, 700; France, 635; Portugal, 495; Spain, 490; Austria, 460; Italy, 450; Russia, 115; Turkey, 75.

Quite a flutter has been caused among the lawyers of St. Louis, by the opinion of the Missouri supreme court that the whole 700 of them are as clearly liable to taxation as merchants, hucksters or auctioneers, and must pay their annual license fee of twenty-five dollars like men.

The case of Benjamin Scull and others against the United States, in which a colossal claim was set up under a Spanish grant to 11,000 square miles of land embracing twenty-four counties in the States of Missouri and Arkansas, has been decided by the United States supreme court adversely to the claimants.

An Iowa paper reports that William H. Jones, of Lincoln township, Ill., performed the feat of husking 128 bushels and sixty-five pounds of corn in eleven hours and a quarter. The corn was husked, weighed and cribbed in the above-stated time. A Rock Island man claims to have husked 125 bushels in eleven hours and a half, but it was guessed at.

There are now in the United States ten Roman Catholic archbishops and fifty-five bishops, against six of the former and twenty-seven of the latter in 1850. The number of priests was then 1,800, and of churches, 1,073; while there are now 5,634 priests and 5,548 churches. The colleges have increased from seventeen to seventy-four, and the Roman Catholic population has doubled.

The perfume manufacturers in the department of the Maritime Alps consume annually 6,000 hundredweight of roses, and the neighborhood of Grasse and Cannes is thickly studded with rose farms. On one hectare of two and a half acres 30,000 bushes are planted; a single bush yielding for twelve years. A single hectare in good cultivation will net an average profit of twenty-four per cent. per year.

It will sound a bit funny when the forty-nine Dakotas take their seats in the chapel of Hampton institute, near Norfolk, Va., to hear the "Faculty-man" call out behind his specs: "Man-That-Looks-Around, Frank Yellow-Bird, Laughing Face, Man-That-Hoots, One-Who-Comes-Flying, Lizzie Spider and Walking Cloud." The government will pay the institute $167 apiece for one year's instruction.

An attack by wolves in the streets of an American village is an unusual occurrence, but it was the experience of Mr. Miner, of Joselyn, Minn. Five of these animals, sprang at his horse and tried to get into his wagon, but his dog coming up diverted the attention of the animals who immediately seized and devoured him. His wife and three children, who were with him, at length brought assistance by their incessant shouting.

During the year 1878 forty-eight American railroads, with a mileage of 3,902 miles and an invested capital of $311,631,000, were sold or passed into the hands of receivers, the totals for three years being 132 roads, 11,623 miles and $728,463,000 of capital. In that period one-seventh of the total mileage and considerably more than one-seventh of the total capital investment have passed through the final stage of bankruptcy.

An eagle measuring eighty-four inches from tip to tip of wings swooped down upon a flock of geese on the farm of Samuel McCune, near Zanesville, Ohio, when a terrible combat ensued for twenty minutes. Feathers flew in all directions, the geese standing up heroically to the work. The eagle succeeded in killing one and wounding several others, but was himself captured by a farmer, in a condition of sore distress. Its naked talons measured two and one-half inches.

The London *Daily News* finds it not easy to determine on account of what event the year 1878 is most likely to become historical. Will it be as the year of the Berlin congress? Will it be as the year of the war in Afghanistan? With many persons no doubt its chief title to fame will seem to be the fact that it is the year of the great exposition in Paris. Others will probably long think of it as the year in which Pope Pius IX. died, others, again, as the year that saw the death of the first king of Italy.

At Princeton, Ill., three brothers of the poet Bryant live, all of them farmers; good, solid men, conspicuous for a sturdy purpose, and a certain inflexible honesty, but not more than ordinarily gifted; that is, two of them are not. Mr. John Howard Bryant is more than an amateur poet. Some of his works have been widely copied, and a few of them have found their way into the enduring form of book. The residence of Mr. J. H. Bryant is the finest house that side of Chicago, and it was a gift from the poet to his brother.

Indiscriminate kissing does not generally have the very best results, as some of America's sensational court records go to show. The physicians of the late Princess Alice have serious charges against kissing. They have investigated the cause of the peculiar virulence of the diphtheria which attacked her family with such fatal results, and have agreed that the rapid spread of the infection was entirely due to imprudent kissing. A child with a sore throat ought not to be permitted to kiss any of its companions.

"Your daughter has treated me very curt"—and the young man was lifted by the parental hoof from the door of his girl's house to the middle of the horse-car track. He arose as quick as he could, and mildly explained that he hadn't finished the word, which was "courteous," and Alphonso was taken under the unhospitable roof once more, had his pants mended, was done up in a salve, and then sent home to his ma in a hack. Thus is true greatness rewarded, and impetuosity rebuked.—*Boston Traveler.*

GAMES.

Amusements for the Winter Evening.

THE MANDARINS.

The leader of the game says to the right-hand neighbor: "My ship has come from China." The other asks: "What has it brought?" The first one replies: "A fan;" and with her right-hand makes gestures as though fanning herself. All the other players do the same. The second player then says to the third: "My ship has come from China;" and in answer to the question "What has it brought?" replies: "Two fans;" fanning herself with both hands, her gestures being imitated by all her companions. The third player, on announcing the possession of "three fans," to keep moving the right foot, without ceasing the motion of her two hands. The others, of course, doing the same. At "four fans," both feet and both hands must be kept moving; at "five fans," both feet, both hands and the right eyelid; at "six fans," both hands, both feet and both eyes; at "seven fans," both hands, both feet, both eyes and the mouth, and at "eight fans," both feet, both hands, both eyes, the mouth and the head. This movement, executed at once by the whole of the players, will give them a most ludicrous resemblance to a party of Chinese mandarins.

THE METAMORPHOSES.

Each player is in turn metamorphosed, that is to say, chooses what animal or thing he or she would wish to become. For instance, a lady says: "I would like to be a mirror." The leader of the game then goes around the company, saying: "If this lady was a mirror what would you do with it, what would you think of it, and where would you place it?" When all of the answers are collected and written down, the leader reads them aloud to the metamorphosed lady, who has to guess by whom they were written.

A forfeit is paid by every person guessed, and by the lady herself, if she does not succeed in rightly divining the author of at least one or more of the speeches.

The great art of this game consists in paying delicate and pleasing compliments to the person metamorphosed through the medium of the object she herself has chosen. Thus in reply to the three questions: "If the lady were a mirror what would you do with it, what would you think of it and where would place it?" a person might reply: "I would allow it to reflect no image but my own; I should think it as pure and polished as the lady herself; and should place it where it would always be in my sight."

THE BAKER.

One player takes the part of the buyer and stands on one side, whilst the others form themselves into a file, standing one behind the other, the one at the head of the column calling herself the "baker," those coming after her "the oven," and the last one in the row "the little loaf." The baker, as we shall see, does not long retain her domination. When the file is formed the buyer approaches and asks for a "little loaf." The baker replies: "It is behind the oven." The buyer turns to the right and goes to fetch it, but the "little loaf," namely, the player at the end of file, leaves her place, runs to the left, crying: "Who runs! who runs!" and endeavors to place herself in front of the baker, whose name and office she then assumes. If the buyer is able to catch her before she attains her object she pays a forfeit and becomes buyer, the former one taking the place of the baker and the game going on as before. It should be played quickly, the questions and answers following each other without a moment's hesitation.

Why they Explode.

The *Scientific American* explains the philosophy of kerosene lamp explosions. Read and learn how to avoid danger: All explosions of petroleum lamps are caused by the vapor or gas that collects in the space above the oil. Of course, a full lamp contains no gas, but immediately on lighting the lamp consumption of oil begins, soon leaving a space for gas, which commences to form as the lamp warms up; and after burning a short time sufficient gas will accumulate to form an explosion. The gas in a lamp will explode only when ignited. In this respect it is like gunpowder. Cheap or inferior oil is always the most dangerous. The flame is communicated to the gas in the following manner: The wick tube in the lamp-burners is made larger than the wick which is to pass through it. It would not do to have the wick work tightly in the burner; on the contrary, it is essential that it move up and down with perfect ease. In this way it is unavoidable that space in the tube is left along the side of the wick sufficient for the flame from the burner to pass down into the lamp and explode the gas.

Many things occur to cause the flame to pass down the wick and explode the lamp. 1. A lamp may be standing on the table or mantel, and a slight puff of air from the open window or door may cause an explosion. 2. A lamp may be taken up quickly from a table or mantel and instantly exploded. 3. A lamp is taken into an entry where there is a draught, or out of doors, and an explosion ensues. 4. A lighted lamp is taken up a flight of stairs, or is raised quickly to place it on a mantel, resulting in an explosion. In these instances the mischief is done by the air movement, either by suddenly checking the draught or forcing air down the chimney against the flame. 5. Blowing down the chimney to extinguish the light is a frequent cause of explosion. 6. Lamp explosions have been caused by using a chimney broken off at the top, or one that has a piece broken, whereby the draught is variable and the flame unsteady. 7. Sometimes a thoughtless person puts a small-sized wick in a large burner, thus leaving considerable space along the edges of the wick. 8. An old burner, with its air draughts closed up, which rightfully should be thrown away, is sometimes continued in use, and the final result is an explosion.

Those Husking Parties.

And the husking parties—hold me for a minute! I went to one once; had I been twenty years older then how I would have sketched it for you; but I was only a boy, and I've only a boy's remembrance. I only remember the lanterns strung on cords from one great beam to the other, each corner bringing his own lantern. I remember the lights and the darkness overhead; the bright flashes and the great shadows that swallowed them up; and the hens that nodded and blinked on the scaffolding and the one fool of a rooster that kept crowing, thinking that he morning had come; and the huge pile of yellow ears that grew and grew in size; and the greater pile of straw-colored husks that were thrown backward and pushed out until they blocked the great barn doorway; and the sleepy cattle in

The Centre Reporter.

FRED. KURTZ.....EDITOR.

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CENTRE HALL, Pa., Feb. 6, 1879.

Ben Hill, of Georgia, in his speech in the senate, the other day, knocks the props from under the radical howl about payment of southern claims. A synopsis of the speech is given in another column of the Reporter.

Gov. Hoyt's inauguration will cost 15 to $20.000—not him, but yon taxpayers. His inaugural talks about economy, and that is what A. Ward would call sarkasm.

Sitting Bull has sent forth his lament—he is hard up and willing to make up. He sends words by his runners that he wants to return to Standing Rock, as his tribe, the Uncapapas, stop on that reservation.

In his message he says: "Once I was strong and brave and my people had hearts of iron, but now I am a coward and will fight no more forever. My people are cold and hungry, my women are sick and my children are freezing. I will do as the Great Father wishes. I will give my guns and my ponies into his hands. My arrows are broken and my war paint thrown to the winds."

The hero of Big Sandy, and forgeries, who grinds Cameron's organ at Bellefonte, becomes indignant when his spite at the late board of Commissioners is at tributed to his failure in getting them to allow him to run that office so that he might plunder the treasury. That he tried this by hook, crook and trick, we respectfully refer the reader to the board aforesaid, for particulars—undoubted evidence will be given that Big Sandy's sheet is nothing but a thieve's organ.

We again ask—why did you villify Hall, Mingle and Gregg over a year before you had the bank matter to harp on? Just for the reason given above.

The Blaine investigation brings out some facts upon republican frauds and violence in South Carolina, which that statesman can smoke in his pipe.

At Charleston on 27, State Senator Maurice testified to the lukewarmness and divisions of the republicans in Williamsburg, and to the general bad character of Swails, the Republican leader; it was in consequence of Swarl's threats that he was notified that he would be held responsible for any bloodshed or houseburning, and that he had better leave the country.

Circuit Solicitor Hirsch, a republican until 1877, said that he had investigated by Governor Hampton's direction, the different charges made by Swails, and found that the White Oak meeting was not held to advocate Mr. Rainey's election; that Swails was not arrested by the Red Shirts and that no threats had been made against Swails except that he would be held to account for any bloodshed or incendiarism.

Jack Epps, a colored preacher, testified that he abstained from voting at the election, and is, in consequence, debarred by the colored republicans from ministering to the Baptist churches he had regularly served.

J. B. Chandler (white) testified that armed negroes surrounded the Cedar Swamp precinct, saying the ballots should not be completed.

Similar testimony was given by both white and colored witnesses in relation to the canvass in Richland county. Edward Perry, printer, of Charleston, was put on the stand. He swore that the issue printed 10,000 republican tickets for E. W. M. Mackey, the republican candidate for Congress at the last election.

The epidemic is spreading in eastern Russia. The St. Petersburg Golas of 27 ult, states that the plague has made its appearance at a hamlet thirty-four miles from Wetlionski. Considerable alarm has been caused in Moscow by the news leaking out that a number of recruits of the imperial army arrived in that city on the 13th of January from the infected district. The recruits were met by doctors, were disinfected and isolated. Their clothing was burned, and it is believed the danger of infection from them is over.

We observe that Gen. Beaver is making himself pretty numerous in different parts of the state—not setting pins for the governorship, four years hence, no. If a rad must succeed Hoyt, (which the good Lord forbid) why let it be the General, by all means.

Col. Quay, who is now Hoyt's Sec'y of the Commonwealth, has also got his eye on the next governorship. As Quay is one of the chief managers of the radical ring, we fear Gen. Beaver will not be up to tricks enough to circumvent Quay. Then, too, Quay is a favorite of the Camerons, and that may count big for the Beaver county man. So you see if Beaver want's to be governor he must look a little out."

The New York Sun of 30 ult., mentions the death of a priest at a wedding. It says: In St. Francis Xavier's Roman Catholic Church last evening, a large company had gathered to see united in marriage Charles Brennan, a son of Owen W. Brennan, and nephew of the late ex-Sheriff Matthew T. Brennan, with Miss. Meta Peetsch, daughter of Henry Peetsch, a wealthy tobacconist, living in East Eighteenth street. The marriage ceremony was to have been celebrated on Wednesday evening last but the sickness and death of the bridegroom's uncle prevented. The Rev. Father Alphonsus Pelletier and the Rev. Father David Merrick, the pastor of St. Francis Xavier's, were standing in front of the altar when Mr. Brennan and Miss Pletsch and their two bridesmaids and two groomsmen walked up the aisle. They were greeted by Father Pelletier, who began a brief discourse on the solemnity of the marriage sacrament. Without warning and as he was saying. "You must give up father and mother," he tottered forward and fell between the bride and the groom, uttered one groan and was still.

The ceremony was taken up by another priest where it had been broken off, and finished.

New York has an anti-treating league Right good, if the'll never re-treat.

It is thought the election of a king for Bulgaria will be postponed for two years, leaving Russia in occupancy.

Gov. Hoyt has appointed M. S. Quay Sec'y of the Commonwealth, in place of Hon. J. B. Linn.

Lane was on the 30th confirmed as Recorder of Philadelphia, to succeed Quay. "Bill" Elliott withdrew his opposition. The consideration *is* not stated.

CIPHERS COMING TO ROOST.

The cipher business over which the republicans of late have been making such an ado, is just now taking a turn; the first pop knocks the breath clean out of these saints. The first days investigation, on 27 ult., is thus summed up by the World's Washington special:

The Potter committee began the investigation of the cipher telegrams today and promptly developed some important and damaging testimony against the Republican management of the campaign of 1876, being no more nor less than the charge that the money of the public Treasury was used to insure the success of the Republican ticket in Indiana at the election of that year. The evidence was wholly unexpected. No member of the committee was aware of it until it was accidentally brought out by the sharp cross-examination by Mr. McMahon of Mr. Green, of the Western Union Telegraph, a son of President Green of that company. He gave a brief history at first of the way the cipher telegrams became public through the collusion of one Bullock, then the messenger of the Morton committee of the Senate, now Consul to Cologne. He gave copies of them first to Congressman Evans, of Indiana, who gave them to Second Assistant Postmaster-General Brady, who turned them over to General Butler, who gave them, it is supposed, to William E. Chandler, who secured their translation, it is believed, and their publication. In the course of the testimony it came out that the late President Orton, of the Western Union, gave an order to Mr. Green to destroy certain telegrams which passed between the then Postmaster-General, Tyner, and the then Secretary of the Interior, Zach Chandler, accompanied by instructions to also burn the order. Mr. Green says that these telegrams, which he read before burning, then passed between Indianapolis and Washington. Mr. Tyner being in Indianapolis and Mr. Chandler in Washington. The former requested the latter to appoint two persons to positions under the Government, whose names Mr. Green could not recollect, at salaries of $2,500 each, and to appropriate the whole amount of the same for immediate use in the pressing necessities of the Republican campaign in Indiana. Mr. Chandler replied, as Chairman of the Republican Committee and as Secretary of the Interior, that it had been done and that the money had been deposited in Bank. Mr. Green is clear in his recollection of the correspondence, which was impressed upon his memory by the order of Mr. Orton to burn it and then to destroy the order, which he did. The object of this was, of course, to prevent any revelation of the use of Government money by the Republican managers before any investigation at Washington. The testimony bas created a profound sensation, and gives a new and important interest to the Potter committee. The additional evidence indicates that all of the important Republican telegrams have been destroyed. It was also shown that the telegrams received by the Morrison committee were duly returned, and that he holds a receipt for the schedule of the same.

The Herald's special says: It is altogether a very disgraceful story, and it shows clearly that the republicans had every opportunity to pick out and take away any despatches which any of them remembered as compromising them or the party. When it is remembered that Bullock, a mere messenger to a committee, an obscure person, received the gift of an important consulate for no reason that can be imagined or has been stated except that he passed the damaging cipher despatches from the committee room into the hands of persons able when they got them to make public use of them, but who could not afford to be charged with taking them themselves, the natural suspicion arises that there were important persons before Bullock as well as behind him, and that he, who served merely as an obscure go between was put out of the way in Germany, to secure his silence. With all the dispatches compromising republicans out of the way, and all the persons concerned in disreputable election transactions in the three Southern States rewarded with public offices, it is easy to see that the republican managers might well think their proceedings safe against disclosure.

Brady who, as Assistant Postmaster General, ought to have had a strong sense of the sacredness of private correspondence, seems to have thought nothing of opening, looking over and taking away telegraphic despatches. His confession will certainly check the schemes to run the telegraphs by government employes.

Mr. Chandler related that he, Mr. Hale, Brady and others held a consultation as to the disposal of the stolen despatches, and finally concluded to put them in General Butler's possession, and that is for the present the end of the mystery.

TWO OPINIONS.

CORRUPTIONIST ORGAN'S OPINION OF THE REPORTER.

"Dirtiest liar, as it is the meanest and poorest excuse for a paper."—*Watchman*, Jan. 31.

DEMOCRATIC ORGAN'S OPINION OF THE REPORTER.

"Our good editorial brother of the *Reporter*."—*Centre Democrat*, Jan. 30.

This thing ain't unanimous, it seems. Its Big Sandy against the other fellow. May have to call in for a little evidence from *that* Auditor's Report, to see which is the most credible witness. In the mean time, good neighbors don't fight about us.

N. B.—The Reporter has been admitted to all decent families from which the Big Sandy sheet has been banished for its vulgarity and unfitness to be read by wives and daughters.

GOLD FOR INTEREST HEREAFTER.

Washington, Jan. 29.—By direction of the Treasury Department all assistant treasurers of the United States will hereafter pay the interest on Government bonds in gold, if demanded, as was the case prior to January 1. The payments of the January interest were in legal tenders or coin-checks on the Sub-Treasury at New York, if the latter were preferred.

In throwing out his drag net, Mr Yocum blindly strikes right and left. An instance of this was his accusation against the election board of Renovo, four of whom voted for him, as shown in their protest published in the Democrat last week. Among the other charges he makes is a special charge that Gov. Curtin, or his friends, paid to Dr. H. Stressley $75 to bribe voters. The Doctor comes out in last week's Elk Gazette and says: "I declare most emphatically that not a red copper has been spent in an illegal manner to secure Gov. Curtin's election, and I brand the person or persons who circulated this falsehood as infamous liars."—Lock Haven Democrat.

In the late election in South Carolina upward of two thousand colored men voted the democratic ticket in Charleston. So a colored witness informed the Teller Committee yesterday. Of course Mr. Blaine will see in this an additional evidence of fraud and intimidation.

SOME CIPHERS.

Speaking of the investigation of the cipher dispatches, the Morning Patriot says: When the New York Tribune and its confederates were clamoring for an investigation of the cipher dispatches they could hardly have imagined that the committee would come upon so rich a "find" on the very first day of the examination. Not Mr. Tilden, whom they have sought to cover with opprobrium, but two of Grant's cabinet officers, Chandler and Tyner, are discovered to have been in telegraphic correspondence the object of which was to corrupt the election in Indiana through the sale of federal offices. Indiana agencies were put up for sale as a means of raising campaign funds, and this shameful fact is proved by the telegraphic dispatches of the two cabinet ministers. Of the vast mass of dispatches of this character that were sent during the contest of 1876 the democratic ciphers were carefully collected and sent to the New York Tribune for partisan uses while the republican ciphers were destroyed by trusty agents to prevent the evidence of fraud and corruption from coming to light. Bullock, one of the agents! to seize and destroy the republican ciphers was made consul at Cologne as a reward of his services. But the living witnesses remain to prove the contents of these dispatches which Mr. Tyner has shown so much anxiety to conceal.

Mr. Floyd Grant, a confidential clerk of the Western Union company, testifies very distinctly to the telegraphic correspondence between Chandler and Tyner. The latter telegraphed to Chandler on the eve of the October election in Indiana that he must make two appointments in the interior department, for which five thousand dollars would be paid, and that the money must be deposited in New York so that it could be drawn in Indianapolis. Chandler answered that he had done as directed and that the money had been deposited. It was further stated in the telegrams that the money was to be used for election purposes. The meaning of this transaction is that these positions in the interior department were to be sold; that the persons named would pay twenty-five hundred dollars each for them, and that Chandler must collect that amount of money and send it to Indiana to be used in the campaign. One cabinet minister made the appointments and the other acted as broker for their sale. It appears from an admission of Mr. Tyner that the positions were Indian agencies, and when the immense fortunes that have been made by Indian agents on small salaries are taken into consideration the price of five thousand dollars for the two agencies is extremely low.

THE BANE OF OFFICE SEEKING.

It strikes us the grand old principle that should the most underlie the fabric of a republic, of all forms of government that the office should seek the man and not the man the office, is becoming an unknown quantity in this country; and on the contrary, every office from the highest in the Nation's gift to the lowest in the State is sought madly after in the manner of contestants in an English hurdle race. Candidates go about before the elections seeking from the sovereign voter's pledges of support in an open and unblushing manner; and it should be asked by every thinking man, is it right that he should be asked to pledge himself, and if it is a harmless demand, should he make such a pledge.

Old Caius Marius, in one of his addresses to the Romans, said: "It is but too common, my countrymen, that we observe a material difference in the conduct of those who become candidates for places of power and truth, before and after they obtain them. They solicit offices in one manner, and execute the duties of them in another. They set out with the fair appearance of activity, humility and moderation; but soon become slothful, proud, and avaricious." Are we much differed from the character of the Romans in our politics? Certainly a modern Caius Marius might use the language quoted effectively to an American audience of the 19th century. The evil must be admitted; and mentioning the evil we feel it our duty to suggest a remedy, which is this: let the American voter when approached by the seeker of office, whoever he may be, refuse to give encouragement to such a pernicious habit by kindly but firmly refusing to make any pledges, and he will have the proud consciousness that he has not shackled his mind so as to prevent him making a proper choice at the right time.

If any are so blind as not to see the evil we have mentioned let them read the press account of the actions of certain seekers of the high office of United States Senator in the states of Illinois and Missouri, and the scales will drop from their eyes as did they from blind Bartimeus' of old and they will no longer with Hamlet say "'tis but our phantazy" and refuse to let belief take hold of them.—Nevada (O.) Enterprise.

THE NEXT CONGRESS.

Everybody appears to understand that the next or Forty-sixth Congress is a Democratic body, but few understand exactly how it stands. The New York Tribune has been figuring on it, and classifies the members-elect of the Forty-sixth Congress, politically, as follows: Democrats, 147; Republicans, 128; Democratic national, 7; Republican nationals, 5; Nationals, 2; to be elected from California, 4. From this classification, it is seen that if all the Nationals should act with the Republicans and the four California members should be Republicans also, the Democrats would still hold a majority in the House, which is composed of 293 members, and 147 is a clear majority of that number. Instead of this, however, the Tribune concedes to the Democrats seven of the fourteen Nationals, and most questions it is believed that nearly all of them will act with the Democrats, while we are morally sure of securing two of the four members from California, with a fair prospect of electing three, and may possibly elect four. The Democratic majority in the House is well assured in any event, the Democrats also holding a majority in the delegations of nineteen States to the Republicans eighteen, and one delegation to be elected.

The Supreme Court of this State recently rendered a decision of much importance to the people. The decision is to the effect that the wife of a man failing in business is entitled to her share of the estate, the balance going to the benefit of the creditors, and not all, as the law has heretofore been interpreted. It is said by lawyers that this is sound law; although the case will probably be carried to the United States Supreme Court.

The trouble in France has grown out of President MacMahon's refusal to sign the decree that provides for certain changes in the commanders of the army. He assented to the changes of civil and judicial functionaries demanded by the Republicans after their recent electoral successes; but he wishes to have his way in matters affecting the army. The Republicans insist that the adversaries of the republic shall not retain control of the military power of France, but that they shall give place to men who are loyal to the existing institutions. The President has stood out against this part of the Republican programme, and according to the despatches, prefers resignation to submission.

The Massachusetts legislators have finally yielded to the strong popular demand for retrenchment by cutting down their own pay, which has been as high as $650 and $750 of late years, to $500. Until well along in the war the annual stiend was but $300, and now that a dollar will buy as much as it ever did Bay State people wanted to see a return to the old figures. And a good many people in Pennsylvania are of the same temper as regards Harrisburg matters. They look for retrenchment there, but the prospects are not good.

EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

Harrisburg, Feb. 3.—There is nothing new at the State Capitol which is of any special importance. This is a dull town when the legislature is not in session, although it is a great railroad centre—but all the bustle is confined to the depot with the arrival and departure of trains.

The legislature is now fairly at work, if I may be allowed that expression—because it is generally admitted that legislatures seldom do any thing. So far as the number of bills introduced up to this date, nearly 900, may be called work, it is a big thing, and our law-makers have at least earned their salt, they think. Among the bills introduced are many for charitable purposes. There is no doubt that a goodly number of the institutions that annually knock at the door of the legislature and ask for appropriations, are a fraud upon the treasury. The names of some of these are well-meaning and high sounding as well as patriotic, but inside they are corruption and no more deserving of state aid than a hotel company, a stock breeding association, or a private picnic party. Yet thousands of dollars are annually voted out of the public treasury upon some of these "charitable" frauds and into the pockets of the winking saints who pretend to manage them. There are worthy objects of charity, deserving and creditable, and it is a surprise that the frauds have never yet been lopped from the genuine by the pruning eye of some sagacious legislator devoted to the public interests. There is a grand field open here for some reformer.

Our representatives Messrs. Gephart and Murray, are at their posts, and no doubt will always be found right upon every important question.

Senator Alexander has introduced a resolution favoring a reduction of the number of senators and representatives, a measure which the Reporter has advocated, and which four-fifths of the voters of the state would endorse if submitted to them. We trust Mr. A. will follow it up until he has chased it through the two houses.

The mail is at hand, and I must close. Perhaps will write you next from Washington. EDITOR.

A ROAD LAW DECISION.

Recently Judge Galbraith, of Erie, decided a question of some importance under the road law. It defined the rights of owners on a point that is arising continuously under our complex special legislation. The plaintiff, John W. Dawley, resides in Franklin township, Erie county, on the Population road. The defendants were the road commissioners of Franklin township and others employed by them. In 1874 the road commissioners of Franklin township employed the county surveyor to survey the Population road, with instructions to find the line of the original survey of the road. According to the line run by Platt under these directions, the road through Dawley's improvement appeared to be from three to seven feet too far west, and the road commissioners ordered him to move his fence on the east side of the road back east, in accordance with this new survey. Dawley's house and grain barn stood on the east side of the road, and he had built a good fence in front of his house, with iron posts, etc., and a nice stake and cap rail fence the balance of the distance, in all about ninety rods of fence, and had set shade trees along the whole line. All these and other improvements had been made with reference to the road as actually opened and traveled since the year 1831, forty-seven years ago. The road was the lawful width, fifty feet, and the fence which the commissioners required him to move was twenty-five feet and over from the centre of the traveled track, and being advised in regard to the law of the case he refused to comply with the order of the road commissioners.

In the fall of 1875 the road commissioners came on with help and tore down and threw back the fence above referred to, and Dawley brought on action of trespass against them the same year to recover damages.

The court after a very careful consideration of the law, ruling that supervisors have no right to relocate a road in order to place it on what they may suppose its recorded site, and that a road once laid and opened, and used by the public for a term of years, whether opened on its recorded site or not, can only be altered by a new proceeding under the road law.

THE FRENCH CRISIS.

Resignation of President MacMahon —His Letter to the Chambers.

Paris, January 30.—Marshal McMahon has resigned the presidency of the republic.

Congress has been convoked for six o'clock this evening.

The election of M. Grevy to the presidency appears to be certain, all the groups of the left being in accord on this point.

All the newspapers except the legitimist and clerical journals condemn President MacMahon. The Bonapartists are especially insulting.

It is reported that at a dinner of some two hundred generals, last evening, MacMahon's action was generally approved.

Versailles, Januray 30.—The following is the text of President MacMahon's letter announcing his resignation:

"At the opening of this session of the chambers the ministry presented you a programme which, while affording satisfaction to public opinion, appeared to the cabinet such as might be voted without danger to the security or good administration of the country. Putting aside all personal views I had given the programme my approbation, for I was sacrificing no principles to which conscience commanded me to remain faithful. To-day, the ministry, thinking to respond to the opinion of the majority in the two chambers, proposes to me in regard to high military commands, some general measures which I consider contrary to the interests of the army and consequently to those of the country. I cannot subscribe to them; any other ministry taken from the majority would impose upon me the same conditions. I consider myself bound, therefore, on the duration of the mandate which the national assembly confided to me and I therefore tender my resignation.

"In quitting power I have the consolation of thinking that during the fifty-three years I have devoted to the service of my country, either as soldier or citizen, I have never been guided by sentiments other than honor and duty and absolute devotion to my country. "I request you to communicate my decision to the chambers.

(Signed) "MacMahon,
"Duke of Magenta.

The proceedings of the two chambers in congress was opened by M. Martell, who again read President MacMahon's letter of resignation and the article of constitution. M. DeGavardis, senator, amid shouts of disapprobation asked whether congress accepted the resignation of President MacMahon. Congress set this inquiry aside by voting the previous question by a large majority. Congress after appointing tellers proceeded at five o'clock to vote for president of the republic. Seven hundred and thirteen senators and deputies were present, of whom 370 voted. The absolute majority required was 336. M Gules Grevy obtained 536 votes and Gen. de Chansey 99. Mr. Grevy was accordingly declared elected and proclaimed president of the Republic for a term of seven years. Forty-three blank voting papers were deposited. M. DuFaure was loudly cheered when he cast his vote. The result was announced at 6:45 p. m. Shortly after the senate and chamber of deputies resumed their separate sittings.

SMASH-UP ON THE CANADIAN.

Welland, Ont., February 2—At 5 o'clock this morning a West bound train on the Canada Southern Railway, while standing on the Lyons creek bridge, near this station, was run into by another West-bound train. Eighteen cars were smashed and one engine and caboose burned. The bridge was also considerably burned. George Tyler, a brakesman on the forward train, was fatally injured. A large force of men was engaged during the day in repairing the damage, and traffic was resumed at 5 o'clock this evening.

THE BLACK PLAGUE IN BRAZIL.

Janeiro, January 13.—It is reported that the black plague has made its appearance in the province of Ceara, Five doctors have been sent there.

SENATOR HILL AGAINST ANY PAYMENT TO EITHER LOYAL OR DISLOYAL PERSONS.

Washington, Jan. 27.—In the Senate today Mr. Hill (Dem., Ga.) speaking against the bill to pay to Warren Mitchell $128,-992,22 for cotton captured by Union troops at Savannah in the war, said that he was opposed to the payment of all war claims. To pay these war claims would bankrupt the Government, and, as we could not pay all, it would be an unjust discrimination to undertake to pay some. Senators on the Republican side said Warren Mitchell was disloyal and should not be paid, and Senators on the Democratic side said he was loyal and should be paid. What was meant by the word "loyalty?" Did it mean a man devoted to the States under the Constitution? It was an easy matter for a man in Maine or New York to proclaim his devotion to the Union in the war, but further down, where the sun is warmer, it required courage for a man to say he was devoted to the Union. He (Mr. Hill) knew thousands and tens of thousands of men in the South who proclaimed their fidelity to the Union to the very last moment. There were many men who fought secession until it became a fact, and submitted to disunion as they submitted to the death of a father or a son. When secession came the only thing they could do was to go with their people. This question of loyalty had not received a proper definition. He knew thousands of men in the South who would at any time during the war have terminated it upon a basis of honest reunion. He believed the greatest possible calamity which could happen to this country would be one section exercising the powers of a conqueror over another. Since he had been in Congress he had heard men denounce Southern people as disloyal thirteen years after the war, and he believed in his heart if those men had been South they would have rivalled William L. Yancey in their devotion to secession.

The people of this country ought to wake up to the conviction that the late war was an honest war. It was a war fought on account of the conviction that they were right. This perpetual talk about rebels and fidelity to the Union did not come from a magnanimous spirit. The war is over. The Union is restored, and it was time that we should leave the questions of the war behind. The maimed Southern soldier would never ask Congress for a pension. His widow and orphan would never ask for it. They accepted their losses as the penalty for failure, as brave men should do. The sooner the people of the South were taught to repair their losses by work, by frugality and industry, the better it would be for them and the country. Let the losses of the war go, and if the people desire to avoid such losses in future, they must avoid war. Mr. Hill, continuing, said he was the humblest man in the Democratic party. That party was now about to return full-fledged to power because the people were satisfied that the Republican party was no longer competent to remain in power. There were four things which the Democratic party ought to proclaim to the world and adhere to them with fidelity. First, he would not pay any war claims, whether the parties were loyal or disloyal. Second, he would vote no more of the public money or lands to build up railroad corporations. Third, he would, in good faith, pay every dollar of the public debt, principal and interest, in good money of standard value. Fourth, he would restore the Constitution of the country and honesty in its administration. Do these things, and in his judgment the child was not born who would witness the termination of Democratic rule in this country.

CHINESE IMMIGRATION—VIEWS OF THE CHINESE MINISTER ON THE ACTION OF THE HOUSE.

Washington, Jan. 28, 1879.—The Chinese Minister, Chin Lan Pin, has been kept fully advised of the progress of the anti-Chinese bill in Congress from day to day, and was prepared for the action of the House this afternoon. Naturally the passage of the bill suggested an interview with His Excellency on the subject of the measure and its unfriendly propositions, but he is unyielding in his decision not to converse with representatives of the press, being probably the most successful repellant of the professional interviewer who has ever visited Washington. But a friend who enjoys his confidence fully is, however, free to express an opinion of what the Chinese Minister thinks of the present situation. This friend is Mr. Kennedy, the agent of the Six Companies in Washington, a gentleman on terms of intimacy with the Chinese legation. Mr Kennedy was asked what view would be taken by Chin Lan Pin of the action of the House, to which Mr. Kennedy replied:—

The Minister of China will neither feel surprised nor express disappointment in view of the action of the House of Representatives. He understands perfectly the nature of our politics and the importance attached to the ascendency of party in California, where the balance of power is held by a non-taxpaying and foreign element. He quite appreciates the political sacrifice risked by either party in a strict adherence to the principles of international law and is quite reconciled to any action of the popular branch of the National Legislatue. He will not take an extra puff of his cigar nor a sip of tea more or less because of the action of the House, as that body is not recognized as the expenent of public sentiment nor empowered to make laws. He appreciates the recognition by all civilized nations that treaties are beyond the control of legislatures and can only be contravened by the authority which gave them vitality. He feels that the same right is enjoyed by his country to exclude from its ports the 28,000 barrels of flour shipped in one week from San Francisco for China, that this country by legislation has to exclude their people, who are now coming in very few numbers, and who would not come at all if not employed advantageously by that portion of the people of California who pay the taxes. He is rather gratified, being a man of benevolence, that political partisans may seem to relieve themselves of adverse pressure in so harmless a way without annoyance to the people of his country who will perhaps exist more secure from abuse by those disposed to make laws for themselves. He feels that he stands on high ground, as the treaty is of American conception and the result of American pertinacity, and when the duly constituted treaty making power shall express a desire for its abrogation it will not be likely that the United States will have as much trouble in effecting that as was experienced in its consummation and when the people of the Pacific coast shall be instrumental in killing the goose which has laid their golden eggs they will experience all the disappointment of the old woman in the story, and, like her, realize too late the irreparable injury to themselves and others which they will have consummated. But Minister Chin Lan Pin has no apprehensions as to the effect of present action or final results, nor of injurious consequences to his country from any action on our part.

When Indian agents paid twenty-five hundred dollars cash in advance for their positions during Grant's administration some slight conception may be formed of the possibilities for plundering the red men.

Senator-elect Carpenter of Wisconsin, received the following message of congratulation on his nomination from his eleven-year-old son, Paul D. Carpenter: "Dear Splendid Papa—Mama and I send love and congratulations."

The recent fire in Hong Kong, China, burned 368 buildings. The loss is estimated at about $1,000,000.

OUR CHINESE WALL.

California opinion of the sort of which Kearney was the most vigorous exponent has made itself felt in the House by the passage of the bill to restrict the number of Chinese immigrants to fifteen in any one ship, but the bill may find less favor in the Senate. As the bill is drawn it may be defended as not in explicit contravention of our treaty with the Emperor of China. By treaty we have pledged ourselves that "Chinese subjects visiting or residing in the United States shall enjoy the same privileges, immunities and exemptions in respect to travel or residence as may there be enjoyed by the citizens or subjects of the most favored nations." Now, the law does not abridge any of the immunities or exemptions of Chinese who reside or travel here; it only regulates navigation, provides how many passengers may come in one ship. But of course it is intended to circumvent the treaty, which course is taken in preference to a motion to abolish the treaty, because we presume the keen-eyed Californians want to retain its advantageous effects while easier to relieve themselves of the others. It is odd that Americans should at last become converts to the great policy of the Chinese wall. China has been dragged from her seclusion, commerce has been forced down her throat. For ages isolated, and desiring to maintain her isolation, she was besieged with appeals for treaties till she made them. And now that she ventures intercourse with other countries we also want to build a wall to keep her out.—*N. Y. Herald.*

ARREARAGES OF PENSIONS.

The bill providing for the payment of arrearages of pensions has passed both houses of Congress and was signed by Mr. Hayes. It is as follows:

Be it enacted &c., That all pensions which have been granted under the general laws regulating pensions or may hereafter be granted, in consequence of death from a cause which originated in the United States service during the continuance of the late war of the rebellion, or in consequence of wounds, injuries or disease received or contracted in said service during the said war of rebellion, shall commence from the date of the death or discharge from said service of the person on whose account the claim has been or shall hereafter be granted, or from the termination of the right of the party having prior title to such pension; provided the rate of pensions for the intervening time for which arrears of pension are hereby granted shall be the same per month for which the pension was originally granted.

Section 2. That the Commissioner of Pensions is hereby authorized and directed to adopt such rules and regulations for the payment of the arrears of pensions hereby granted as will be necessary to cause to be paid to such pensioners, or if the pensioners shall have died to the person or persons entitled to the same, all such arrears of pensions as the pensioner may be or would have been entitled to under this act.

Section 3. That section 4,717 of the Revised Statutes, which provides that "No claim for pension, not prosecuted to a successful issue within five years from the date of filing the same, shall be admitted without record evidence from the War or Navy Department of the injury or the disease which resulted in the disability or death of the person on whose account the claim is made; provided, that in any case in which the limitation prescribed by this section bars the further prosecution of the claim, the claimant may present, through the pension office, to the Adjutant General of the army or the Surgeon General of the navy, evidence that the disease or injury which resulted in the disability or death of the person on whose account the claim is made originated in the service and in the line of duty. And if such evidence is deemed satisfactory by the officer to whom it may be submitted he shall cause a record of the fact so proved to be made, and a copy of the same to be transmitted to the Commissioner of Pensions; and the bar to the prosecution of the claim shall thereby be removed," be and the same is hereby repealed.

Section 4. No claim agent or other shall be entitled to receive any compensation for his service on making application for arrears of pension.

Section 5. That all acts or portions of acts, so far as they may conflict with the provisions of this act, be and the same are hereby repealed.

AN ALMSHOUSE FIRE.

Several Louisville Paupers Burned up Yesterday Along With Their Home.

[Special Despatch to the World.]

Louisville, January 31.—When several years ago this city was oppressed with a municipal ring among other improvements an almshouse was built, though the old one was in every way sufficient. Today this architectural monstrosity and charitable humbug was burned down, and though nearly all of the 340 inmates escaped, several were burned or killed in their efforts to escape. The building was four or five miles from the city proper, and therefore even if water had been available, which it was not, the fire engines would have been of little service. Fortunately for the miserable creatures who found a home at this institution the fire occurred in the daytime. Had it occurred at night this short despatch would be entirely inadequate to tell the story of the conflagration. As it is Henry Kohler and James Ridley were burned to death. Thomas Dixen and Fred Meyer were both killed by falls while attempting to escape. Nathan Caldwell was seriously hurt, as was also Mrs. Johnson, who will probably die. An old woman, who was ninety years old and French, endeavored to save her feather bed, her only property, and was burned to death in the building.

Of course there was great excitement in town all day, as the wildest rumors of great loss of life were current. In the afternoon thousands of people went out to see the ruins. The building was finished in 1874 at a cost of $175,000, the farm on which it was placed having been sold to the city for a sum equally large, which it is needless to say was fully twice as much as it was worth. The building was insured for $70,000. The paupers were assigned other quarters at once.

SEETENCE OF THE GLASGOW BANK DIRECTORS.

London, Feb. 2.—The high court of justiciary at Edinburgh yesterday passed sentence upon the directors of the City of Glasgow bank. Robert Summer Stronach and Lewis Potter, convicted of fraud, theft and embezzlement, were sentenced to eighteen months' imprisonment. The five other directors, John Stewart, Robert Salmond, William Taylor, Henry Inglis and John Innis Wright, convicted of uttering false abstracts of balance sheet, were sentenced to eight months' imprisonment.

London, January 31.—A general strike of iron workers numbering 3,500, and brass founders will commence to-morrow at Liverpool. Two thousand boiler makers and ship builders are also considering the advisability of striking.

CONKLING DEFEATED.

The Grant Third Term Movement Gets a Black Eye in the United States Senate.

[Special to the Patriot.]

Washington, February 3.—The senate to-day in executive session, after a prolonged discussion, confirmed the New York appointments of Gen. Merritt and Mr. Burt. The result is regarded here as a severe blow to the Grant third term programme and to the republican political machine in New York city.

BOILER EXPLOSION—SIX MEN KILLED.

Bradford, Pa., January 28.—About six o'clock last evening, while the new locomotive of the Elevated railroad, with one car attached, was proceeding from Foster toward Babcock's Mills, one of the boilers exploded, killing six men and wounding a number of others.

IMPORTATION OF AMERICAN CATTLE INTO CANADA PROHIBITED.

Ottawa, Ont., February 2.—The government has passed an order in council prohibiting the importation of American cattle into Canada.

E. F. Kunkel's Bitter Wine of Iron. A sure cure for Dyspepsia or Indigestion, Weak Stomach, General Debility, Diseases of the Nervous System, Constipation, Acidity of the Stomach, and for all cases requiring a Tonic. Every bottle guaranteed, or the money refunded. Price, $1. Get the genuine. Ask for E. F. Kunkel's Bitter Wine of Iron and take no other. Price, $1, or six bottles for $5. If your druggist does not have it, send to Proprietor, 259 N. Ninth St., Philadelphia, Pa. Advice free; enclose three-cent stamp.

WORMS, WORMS, WORMS. E. F. Kunkel's Worm Syrup never fails to destroy Pin, Seat, and Stomach Worms. Dr. Kunkel, the only successful physician who removes Tape Worm in two hours. Alive, Whole, and no fee until removed. Common sense teaches if Tape Worms be removed all other worms can be readily destroyed. Advice at office and store, free. The doctor can tell whether or not the patient has worms. Thousands are dying daily, with worms, and do not know it. Fits, spasms, cramps, choking and suffocation, sallow complexion, circles around the eyes, swelling and pain in the stomach, restless at night, grinding of the teeth, picking at the nose, cough, fever, itching at the seat, headache, foul breath, the patient grows pale, and thin, tickling and irritation in the anus,—all these symptoms, and more, come from worms. E. F. Kunkel's Worm Syrup never fails to remove them. Price, $1.00 per bottle, or six bottles for $5.00. For Tape Worm write and consult the Doctor. For all others, buy of your druggist the Worm Syrup, and if he has it not, send to DR. E. F. KUNKLE, 259 N. Ninth St., Philadelphia, Pa. Advice by mail, free; send three-cent stamp.
16 jan 4t

NATIONAL HOTEL.
CORTLANDT ST., Near Broadway, NEW YORK.
HOTCHKISS & POND, Proprietors.
ON THE EUROPEAN PLAN.
The restaurant, cafe and lunch room attached, are unsurpassed for cheapness and excellence of service. Rooms 50cts. to $2 per day, $3 to $10 per week. Convenient to all ferries and city railroads.
New Furniture. New Management. 23 jan 1y

.....Special Notices.....

THE WORLD'S BALM.
Dr. L. D. Weyburn's Alterative Syrup, A remedy used THIRTY FIVE YEARS in private practice, and never failing to radically cure
RHEUMATISM,
Dropsy, Erysipelas, Scrofula, Secondary Syphilis, Gravel, Diabetes and all diseases in which the blood is implicated is now offered to the public.
Sold by all Retail Druggists, and wholesale only by the Weyburn Medicine Co., P. O. Box 86, Rochester, N. Y.

PIMPLES.
I will mail (Free) the recipe for a simple Vegetable Balm that will remove Tan, Freckles, Pimples and Blotches, leaving the skin soft, clear and beautiful; also instructions for producing a luxuriant growth of hair on a bald head or smooth face. Address, inclosing 3c stamp, Ben. Vandelf & Co., 30 Ann Street, N. Y.

TO CONSUMPTIVES.
The advertiser having been permanently cured of that dread disease, Consumption, by a simple remedy, is anxious to make known to his fellow-sufferers the means of cure. To all who desire it, he will send a copy of the prescription used, (free of charge) with the directions for preparing and using the same, which they will find a sure cure for Consumption, Asthma, Bronchitis, &c.
Parties wishing the Prescription, will please address E. A. WILSON, 194 Penn St., Williamsburgh, N. Y.

ERRORS OF YOUTH.
A GENTLEMAN who suffered for years from Nervous Debility, Premature decay, and all the effects of youthful indiscretion, will for the sake of suffering humanity, send free to all who need it, the receipt and direction for making the simple remedy by which he was cured. Sufferers wishing to profit by the advertiser's experience can do so by addressing in perfect confidence,
JOHN B. OGDEN, 42 Cedar St., New York.

PILES of all kinds, TUMORS, discharges of BLOOD or mucus, and all diseases of the RECTUM quickly and perfectly cured by a simple and soothing Remedy. For information, address
Dr. J. FABER & CO., 22 Ann St., N. Y.

HARDWARE!

WILSON, M'FARLANE & CO.

NEW GOODS---PANIC PRICES.

STOVES — HEATERS — RANGES

We would especially call attention to the

Highland Queen Cook Stove,

—AND THE—

WELCOME HOME HEATING STOVE.

Our Stock being entirely New. We offer special Bargains in HARDWARE, OILS and PAINTS.

WE CANNOT BE UNDERSOLD.

WILSON, M'FARLANE & CO.,
HUMES' BLOCK, BELLEFONTE, PENN'A.

THE CENTRE REPORTER.

Centre Hall, Pa, Th'rsd. Feb. 6, '79.

TERMS.—$2 per year, when paid in advance; $2.50 when not paid in advance. Advertisements 20cts per line for three insertions, and 5cents per line for every subsequent insertion. Advertisements by the year at a liberal discount.

Subscribers outside the county should remit 10 cts, amount of one year's postage instead of 20cts as formerly when paid themselves.

Subscribers can always tell how their accounts stand at the Reporter office by coming to the tables on their papers. If the label reads "John Roe 1 Jan '76" it means that John is indebted for subscription from 1st of January, 1876, and that it is the week paying the printer.

LOCAL ITEMS.

LODGE MEETINGS.

CENTRE HALL LODGE, No. 893, I. O. of O. F. meets every Saturday evening in the Odd Fellows Hall. J. F. ALEXANDER, N. G. A. FORKMAN, Sec'y.

PENN'S VALLEY LODGE, No. 357, F. A. M., meets on Saturday evening on or before each full moon in the Centre Hall. HUEBLACHER, Sec't. J. J. ARNEY, W. M.

PATRONESS GRANGE, No. 56, P. of H., meets at their hall in Centre Hall on the Saturday on or before full moon at 1 P. M. and every two weeks after. Jas. A. Meyer Master. LEONARD RHONE, Sec't.

—For Pure Drugs go to Zeller's Drug Store, Brockerhoff row. 14 nov 3m.

—George Hoffer's farm stock at public sale, at Centre Hall, Feb. 12.

—P. F. Keller's sale, Centre Hall, Feb. 8.

—J. C. Bierley's sale, Centre Mills, Feb. 26.

—George Krape's sale, Gregg, Feb. 27.

—J. S. Carson's sale, near Centre Hill, Feb. 14. See adv.

—Two valuable farms at Private Sale. See adv.

—The spring elections take place on the 18 of February.

—Clothing made to order at Newman's by one of the best tailors from Philadelphia.

—Get your dried and canned fruits at Sachlers, headquarters for all kinds of groceries. Goods warranted fresh and pure.

—If you have a cough, cold, or consumption, get Frank P. Green's compound syrup of tar and honey.

—The editor having gone east, the readers of the REPORTER will give the "boys" all credit for any improvement that may be noticed on this issue.

—The Centre county Grangers think of getting Gen. Butler to lecture for them.

—Latest—Sleighing on the bare ground.

—We always thought we had a peculiar gift in writing rhyming poetry; and since the editor has left us to visit some of the eastern cities, we will try our hand, as follows, to wit, viz :—

KNOWLEDGE.

To make A Start, knowledge Is,
and sometimes It is Not ;—
What is knOwledgE not?
Why, its nOt-noT—*Ignorance*.

—Dinges is doing the best business in town at present.

—There is a protracted meeting in progress in the M. E. Church at this place. W. R. Whitney, pastor. Thus far, one seeker has presented himself at an altar of prayer.

—The place to buy Cook Stoves and sell your wheat is at I. J. Grenoble's, Spring Mills.

—Thanks to John Smith, Dinges' obliging clerk, for making the "poor printers" smile out loud, by presenting them with a package containing cheese and crackers.

—Snow—yesterday.

—W. B. Shaffer, of this place intends working at his trade in Williamsport. Sorry to have you leave us.

—Wm. Harpster, who has been on a visit to his friends in this place, has returned west again.

—The Central Pa. Conference of the Evangelical Church, will meet in Lewisburg on the first Thursday in March.

—The boro' of Millheim is promised a new church by the Evangelical denomination, which would be the fourth for that town.

—Michael Cooney, found guilty at Nov. term, of assault and battery on Geo. Scheid, of Lock Haven, was sentenced by Judge Orvis to one year in the county prison and $10 fine.

—Rev. A. A. Kerlin, of Stone Valley, preached an able sermon in the Lutheran church at this place, on Sabbath evening, last.

—Choice Teas, Coffees, etc., are being closed out at Dinges'.

—Mr. D. C Keller, of this place, owns a calf, two weeks old, that weighs 146 lbs. Who can beat that?

—Sale bills printed cheap. Send us list of articles and size of bill and we will send bills by return mail.

—Mr. Benj. Kerstetter contemplates erecting another new house at Coburn, this spring.

—Farmers will find Mr. Brown, near the Bellefonte depot, fair and square as a grain dealer. You are assured of the highest prices always.

—The condition of some of the board walks in this town is scandalous. It is not safe for persons to go along some of our streets after night, especially Church street. Property owners who leave their walks in such a condition, ought to be ashamed of themselves. JUSTICE.

—The *Democrat* says a Bellefonte boy, Wm Long, got his leg broke by hanging to a wagon, his leg being caught by a spoke. Let this be a warning to other boys.

—Last Saturday evening an attempt was made to rob Mr. Leitzel, of Potters Mills. He had placed a lamp in the hall, and going out a little while after, the lamp could not be found. In searching a little while for it he came to a room in which he kept his clothes and valuables, this door was locked, and, suspecting that all was not right, he tried to force the door open when some one inside raised the window and jumped to the ground a distance of 15 feet and made his escape. D. & S.

—The REPORTER is read by all, hence it is one of the best advertising mediums in the county.

—Safe, reliable, harmless and cheap, is Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup. Price only 25 cents.

—From Dec. 21, 1878, to Jan. 21, 1879, inclusive, the firm of W. E. Smith & Bro. has purchased, sold and shipped from Coburn and Spring Mills, Centre county, twenty nine thousand and four hundred bushels of grain, principally wheat. Mr. James Wall bosses their business.

—We are informed that the Gregg township Independent School District has been abolished, by a decree of court on a petition of citizens of the township. The abolition of the district was strongly opposed by the Independent people. We do the people of the Independent district but simple justice by saying that their's was one of the best school districts in the county. It had existed for a long time; none but good teachers, with a living salary, were employed.

—A well-spring of pleasure is a healthy baby; keep your baby in good health by using Dr. Bull's Baby Syrup,—the friend of Infancy. Price 25 cents.

—Times would have been much worse in some families in this county, if it were not for the pure, fresh, wholesome and cheap groceries they supplied themselves with at Sechler's.

—Always go to headquarters when you wish anything. Hence, when you wish books of any kind, stationery, fancy and toilet articles, just go in to Millers, next door to post-office, Bellefonte.

—Buy your stationery at Miller's book store, next door to post office, Bellefonte, where you also find every description of fancy articles for all ages and sexes. Any book you desire can be had, or ordered at Millers'.

—A GRATEFUL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT.—The undersigned hereby gratefully acknowledges a donation in produce and groceries from the Penn's Creek congregation, amounting to $25. The donors are hereby assured that this act of kindness is properly appreciated and the presents thankfully received.
JOHN TOMLINSON

—Y. M. C. A.—After lying in a state of dormancy for about two years, the Young Men's Christian Association of Centre Hall has been re-organized. Rev. S. A. Taggart, State Sec'y of the Y. M. C. A., with four earnest workers from Bellefonte, met with the people here, on Sabbath, Jan. 26, and held an evangelistic meeting, which resulted in the upbuilding of believers, and through his faithful efforts the spirit of earnest work in the vineyard of the Lord, was instilled into the hearts and minds of the young men; and by the demonstrations made on Sabbath, 2d inst., in their devotional meeting, they are determined to push on the gospel train, the Lord being their conductor. May their labors be crowned with success.

COURT SUSPENDED FOR A SINGULAR CAUSE.—We have heard of the business of Court being suspended on account of the sickness of a juror or the indisposition of the Judge, but it is left for a Huntingdon county juror to cause the adjournment of court because of drunkenness. Yesterday morning, says the News of last week, William Houck, a farmer of Tod township, was drawn to serve as a juror in the case of George Fleming vs. The Pennsylvania Canal Co. The case proceeded, although, as the sequel proved, Mr. Houck was then under the influence of liquor, with mind unfit to weigh the evidence. This morning court was called and Mr. Houck was absent. The sheriff was sent in search of him, and found him out of town wending his way homeward. He was brought back and lodged in jail until this afternoon, when he was summoned before the court and asked if he had anything to say in exculpation of his misconduct. He hesitatingly replied that he had not. Judge Dean then recounted the duties of the Jury Commissioners to place in the wheel the names of sober, discreet and intelligent citizens, a duty in which they had utterly failed in his case. He then pictured to the culprit the disgrace he had brought upon himself by indulging his appetite in strong drink, and the loss of at least $1000 he had caused. He was sentenced to pay a fine of $200, and have his name stricken from the list of jurors hereafter. The eleven jurors were then discharged, defendant's counsel refusing to continue the case with less than the Constitutional number.

—In the M'Closky-Troxell forgery case, mentioned in the REPORTER last week, the verdict of the jury was not guilty, Jas. I. M'Closkey to pay one-third of costs and B. F. Troxell the balance.

Grand jury found a true bill against Peter Herdic for obtaining money under false pretense.

—Try Dinges' Prime Rio Roasted Coffee, only 20 cts. per pound.

—Ground hog day, this year, was a legal holiday—it fell on Sunday, Feb. 2.

The heirs of Mr. Holt, killed in the Snowshoe railroad wreck, claim $25,000 damages, says the Republican.

SPRING MILLS ITEMS.

Poor—the sleighing.

Dull—the grain business.

There were fifty-three car loads of wheat shipped from this place during the month of January. There were twenty-eight loads shipped by Krumrine & Son, twenty-three by I. J. Grenoble & Co., and one by Michael Hattinger; beside several car leads of clover seed, barley and other grain, which make our little village quite a market for grains. While the sledding lasted the place was lively with teams bringing in grain and taking away coal, but since the sledding has got so poor the business is very slack.

Mr. Jacob Frederieks is very busy drawing stone for a new house, which he inteads having ready to occupy by spring, which will give us another blacksmith here; right here I might say "look a leedle out" Jerry, or you might have to shut up shop.

There was a musical entertainment at Mr. Duncan's on last Wednesday evening, that being the evening of singing, the class was invited to adjourn to the Duncan mansion, and quite a number availed themselves of the invitation, and after some music furnished by Prof. Meyer and some little dancing on the part of the rest, Mrs. Duncan says, now for a grand "march" to the dining room, where refreshments were served in the shape of delicious ice cream and cake, after which some more music by the class and the L. M. Doxology, every one wended their way homeward, thinking they could not have enjoyed themselves better, for Mr. Duncan is a whole host of himself, and Mrs. D. a hostess. More anon. PEDRO.

—The best coal sold in this county, you find at L. L. Brown's near the Bellefonte depot, where farmers get the highest cash price for all kinds of grain.

At the meeting of the Centre Co. Agricultural Society held in the court house on Monday evening 27, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

President—George M. Boal, Potter.

Vice Presidents—John Wolf, Miles; Robert Brett, Ferguson; Samuel Bennison, Marion; Reuben Underwood, Union.

Secretary and Treasurer—S. D. Gray, Bellefonte.

Librarian—Wilbur F. Reeder, Bellefonte.

Executive Committee—Jas. A. Weaver, Milesburg; John Rishel, Benner; James McClintock, Gregg; Clement Dale, Bellefonte; Matthias Elder, Half Moon; Professor John Hamilton, College.

—Oldest and most reliable drug house in Centre county—F. P. Green's, in the Bush house block. None but fresh and pure drugs kept, also fine toilet and fancy goods.

—Dinges always sells the best butter to consumers.

—$25 to $100 reward is what a family will net at the year's end, in Centre county, by purchasing all its groceries at Sechler's. The gain in it is in getting goods that are first class and at prices to suit the times. It is a great satisfaction to know that you can buy goods for table consumption which are not stale and half worthless. This is one great source of satisfaction that all Sechler's customers have.

The election of Ingalls in Kansas to succeed himself and Jonas in Louisiana to succeed Senator Eustis, completes the Senatorial elections for the next Congress, except in New Hampshire, which will not elect until June. The new Louisiana Senator, B. F. Jonas, is at present a member of the State Senate and a leading New Orleans lawyer; though his reputation is not extensive it is good so far as it reaches. He has for years been an intimate personal friend of Mr. Eustis, whom he succeeds.

—None can compete with Newman for Clothing. He has the largest and best assortment; he sells cheapest and gives the most extraordinary bargains always. He is the man who knocked down the prices of clothing, whereby hundreds of dollars are saved to the people of Centre county every year. For this Newman deserves the encouragement of all—he has proven a public benefactor. Newman has earned the title of King Clothier.

—Go to Brown's, near the depot, with your grain, you get the highest prices there. He keeps the cheapest coal, and all kinds.

SLAUGHTER OF A CARAVAN.

Six Hundred Persons Massacred.

London, January 31.—A Vienna dispatch to the *Daily Telegraph* says a party of insurgent Arabs attacked a caravan near Hedjax, and killed 600 persons.

AN INCALCULABLE LOSS.

The Most Valuable Portion of Franklin County (Ohio) Records Destroyed.

Columbus, Ohio, February 1.—When the fire proof vault adjoining the County Recorder's office was opened this morning, the contents were found in flames. The alarm was sounded and the department put out the fire, so that the loss was confined to records already destroyed when it began its work. Only those records in the southwest corner were destroyed, but they were those containing the deeds and transfers in this county from the foundation of the North Territory down to about 1830. There is now no unbroken official record of the chain of titles to over $50,000,000 worth of real estate in this county. In addition to this the old original plats of Columbus, with its in-lots and out-lots, and many additions made to it, are destroyed, and the continuity of the official records of title to all the valuable city property here, as well as in Worthington and other villages in the county, is broken so that the loss can never be fully remedied. The disastrous effect could not be much more complete had the entire records been destroyed.

The loss is incalculable, as there is no telling how much litigation and uncertainty the destruction of these records will entail for very many years to come. There is but one complete set of abstracts of title of all the $50,000,000 and more of property in the world, and that is in the possession of Brown Brothers, of this city. As the original records are destroyed, it may be that legislation will be resorted to so as to make these abstracts available in evidence instead of the original records. It is stated further that the firm has offered to replace the records destroyed for $50,000, from their abstracts, but there is already a strong opposition to such a proposition, nor is it known to a certainty that such a proposition has been made.

There is no doubt that the fire was of incendiary origin. The firemen found twenty or more of the large volumes of records with the backs sticking out of the shelves so as to give the fire chance at the pages. A number of the books were completely saturated with coal oil, so as to make their destruction sure, and instead of being placed on the shelves with their backs exposed, as is usually the case, they were in such position as to give the fire the best possible chance.

A MURDERER'S HEAVY SENTENCE.

What His Friends Have Done and Propose to Do to Release Him.

Cincinnati, O., February 1.—Great excitement exists in Frenchburg, Ky., over the conviction of William Barnes for the murder of Thomas Stephens in March last. Barnes, who is a reckless desperado, had a difficulty with Stephens in which he was worsted. A few days after he went to Steph as' farm, where the latter was at work, and without warning shot him dead. He was arrested and placed in jail at Mount Sterling. His adherents on two occasions set fire to the town, hoping to secure his release. Barnes was finally removed to Lexington for safe-keeping and afterwards brought to Frenchburg for trial. The jury yesterday found, him guilty and fixed his punishment at confinement in the Penitentiary for ninety-nine years. Barnes swears he will never go there, and threats of rescue are freely made by his friends, who declare they will kill all who were engaged in the prosecution. The Sheriff has fifteen men guarding the jail and a reserve of thirty-five men in readiness.

MADISON WELLS INDICTED.

Accused of Selling the Patronage of his Office—Other Indictments to Follow.

New Orleans, Feb. 2.—It is said upon trustworthy authority that J. Madison Wells was, on Wednesday last, indicted by the United States Grand Jury here upon several distinct charges of corruption in office. It has been an open secret months that Wells was in the habit of selling the patronage of his office. The names of E. A. Yorke, P. J. Kennedy and others have been mixed up with allegations of this character. Employees who have been compelled to pay for positions or promotion, or to submit to monthly deductions from their salaries for the benefit of Wells have at times betrayed a disposition to give the thing away. The present Grand Jury happened to have been better constituted than any of its immediate predecessors. Certain Republicans here, desirous of purifying the Republican party and the public service, undertook the task of bringing these corruptions before the jury. It is not necessary to say that every obstacle has been placed in the way of honest investigation. It is said that a refusal to proceed with other business until investigation of these charges was had finally broke down the resistance of the officers of the court. Judge Billings should be excepted from criticism in this connection, as he has deserved none. Efforts were made by Collector Smith to buy off the jury with Custom House patronage. Only two jurors, however, could be induced to accept appointments. It will be readily understood that details of the Grand Jury proceedings cannot now be had. It is enough for the present to know that the jury has done its duty, and that Wells is likely to pay the penalty of his crimes.

The Grand Jury also had under investigation the warehouse and drayage frauds and the matter of a fraudulent bond filed to cover the new general order warehouse opened a few weeks ago by one Dumas. These charges seriously affect the Collector and Special Deputy T. C. Anderson. The evidence is said to be overwhelming, and the indictment of these persons and other officials involved is expected.

SERIOUS RAILWAY COLLISION.

Welland, Ont., February 2.—At five o'clock this morning the train on the Canada Southern railway standing on the Lyons creek bridge, near this station, was run into by another train. Eighteen cars were smashed and one engine and caboose burned. The bridge was also considerably burned. The brakeman on the forward train was fatally injured.

A young woman is said by the London World to have argued, in the midst of a dinner party discussion of Brigham Young's death, that the principles of Mormonism ought to be reversed. "Times," she said, "are so bad, and fashions so expensive, that it is absurd for one man to have four or five wives; whereas, if each woman had four or five husbands, see how much cheaper it would be for each husband, and how much better wives could dress."

Castoroil, besides being an excellent dressing for leather, renders it vermin proof. It should be mixed, say half and half, with tallow or other oil. Neither rats, roaches, nor other vermin will attack leather so prepared.

If fine-cut tobacco be sprinkled under the edge of carpets, and under those places where bureaus, book-cases and the like make it dark, the moths will be prevented from laying their eggs in them, as it will drive them away.

DOUBLE HANGING IN INDIANA.

The People Wanted an Execution and John Achey Said he Was Ready for it.

Indianapolis, January 29.—The execution of William E. Merrick and John Achey took place at 12.30 o'clock to-day. At 12.30 two physicians pronounced both men dead. Achey claimed that his crime was not premeditated and closed by saying: "The people want a hanging and I am ready for it." Merrick asserted his innocence to the last. Both men displayed wonderful coolness and stepped to their places on the trap without the assistance and with no hesitation or tremor visible. The arrangements of the Sheriff were perfect and were carried out without the slightest accident. The necks of both men were broken.

Achey had been for twenty years a hanger-on of gambling-houses, being frequently employed to deal faro and perform similar services. Last spring his mother died leaving property worth about $25,000, but Achey sold out his share (one-third) to a thrifty sister for $2,250 cash. He put the most of this money into a faro game with Leggett, a notorious Indianapolis grambler. Leggett laid a plan to fleece his partner, and with two accomplices whom he took into the plot he succeeded in getting the whole amount. Achey was drinking hard at the time and on several occasions demanded a settlement from Leggett, but was treated only with scorn, even when on July 16, the day of the murder, Achey told him he would be satisfied with $25. Thereupon he procured a revolver and, following Legget into the best-known saloon in the city, shot him in the abdomen. Leggett died in twenty minutes.

Merrick's crime was much more atrocious. He was the keeper of a livery stable and, as a branch of the business, had for the last five years driven a flourishing business as a resurrectionist. He became acquainted with Julia A. Paul, a girl of considerable intelligence and who had been a school teacher. He betrayed her and she brought a suit for bastardy, which was compromised by his marrying her. He treated her brutally thereafter and she lived in squalid apartments over his stable. He frequently threatened her life, and on the day before her disappearance, September 14 last, he bought some strychnine. The next evening he took her out to ride, stopped at a saloon and got her a glass of blackberry wine, into which he was seen to empty a white powder. He returned to his stable alone and could give no satisfactory account of his wife's disappearance. Eight days afterward her badly decomposed body and that of an infant, to whom she had given birth during her death agony, were found half covered by logs on the bank of Eagle Creek, two or three miles outside the city. It is believed that Merrick drove about the city with his wife dying by his side until she ceased to breathe. It only took the jury to which his case was submitted eleven minutes to convict him and assess the punishment—which is a province of Indiana juries—at death. He continued to maintain to the last that his wife was alive and would appear in time to save him from the gallows. He was about thirty-seven years of age and had been tried for murder in 1863 in Fayette county and acquitted principally because, it is said, he and some of the jurymen were alike Knights of the Golden Circle. His counsel in the last trial was the presiding judge in the first. Merrick is also believed to have poisoned a man in order to get his horse about two years ago, is supposed to have been a thief and a receiver of stolen goods, and is accused of having maintained improper relations with his own neice.

BURNING OUT THE PLAGUE.

London, Feb. 2, 1879.—A committee of the Russian Ministers have resolved as follows:—"That the Minister of the Interior shall be empowered to burn Wetlianka and other villages where it is necessary, the inhabitants to be removed elsewhere within the quarantine district. Troops to enforce the quarantine will be placed at the disposal of the civil administration. A delegate will be despatched to Astrakhan and the neighboring governments with power to adopt extraordinary measures. He will be accompanied by a medical commission to investigate the causes of the epidemic." A despatch from St. Petersburg says six more persons have been attacked with the plague at Selitreno. The Czar has ordered General Loris Melikoff to start immediately for Astrakhan, with full powers. He is appointed Governor General of the plague stricken districts, which are specially created into a province during the continuance of the epidemic. An Austrian Imperial ordinance has been issued at Vienna, identical with that of the German government, prohibiting the importation of a large number of articles from Russia and ordering the disinfection of all arrivals therefrom. The Galician authorities have memoralized the government for the immediate establishment of a cordon against Russia. A Sanitary Council has been convoked at Rome to take precautionary measures against the plague.

WHAT TO DO WITH SITTING BULL.

Washington, January 29.—It is now very well ascertained that the course of the Government in dealing with Sitting Bull will be to require him and his people to conform absolutely to the regulations of the War Department, first surrendering as prisoners of war, or else to go back again into Canada. The principal men of the tribes would be in all probability carefully guarded to prevent any chances of instieating an outbreak.

DYING RAPIDLY FROM STARVATION.

Gibraltar, February 2.—It is feared that before next year half the inhabitants of the Southern provinces of Morocco will have perished by starvation and disease on account of the scarcity caused by last year's drought.

St Petersburg, January 30.—It is officially announced that the plague has appeared at Selitrenoigorodok, on the Volga, seventy miles from Wetlianka.

The Governor of Saratoff telegraphs that measures of protection against the plague, such as the isolation of the infected districts and their disinfection and the establishing of sanitary cordons have been taken throughout the government of Saratoff and especially on the Astrachan frontier.

The Telephone City Chicago may yet be called, to such an extent have its people availed themselves of the far-speaker. Dr. E. M. Hale tells a *Tribune* reporter how he diagnosed a case where he was called (through the telephone of the District Telegraph Company) by a distant patient whose baby was ill—presumably with croup. He asked the temperature of its body, symptoms, breathing and cough, got them to hold the child near the instrument till he heard the cough and cry which indicated croup, prescribed the simple temporary remedies, had the telegraph office place him in communication with a druggist, who was instructed to prepare a prescription, and in a few minutes the druggist had called a messenger and sent him with the medicine, and the doctor and druggist had returned to their beds.

1879. THE PATRIOT. 1879.

GET UP A CLUB AND RECEIVE YOUR PAPER FREE.

The DAILY PATRIOT will be sent by mail to clubs at the following rates:

$6.00 per copy per year to a club of five.
$5.50 per copy per year to a club to ten.
$5.00 per copy per year to a club of twenty.
$4.50 per copy per year to a club of thirty.
$4.00 per copy per year to a club of fifty.

And one copy free for one year in every case to the person getting up the club. Proportional rates for parts of a year.

The WEEKLY PATRIOT will be sent by mail at the following rates:

$2.00 per annum for single copy.
$1.50 per annum per copy to a club of four
$1.25 per annum per copy to a club of eight.
$1.00 per annum per copy to a club of fifteen.
$0.90 per annum per copy to a club of thirty.
$0.85 per annum per copy to a club of fifty
$0.75 per annum per copy to a club of one hundred.

And one copy free for one year in every case to getter up of club.

The cash must accompany all orders to insure attention. All money should be sent by post office order or registered letter, otherwise it will be at the sender's risk. Address

PATRIOT PUBLISHING CO.,
Harrisburg, Pa.

The Fall Season for the year 1878 is now opening and a New and EXCELLENT STOCK OF FALL AND WINTER GOODs IS COMING IN

AT GUGGENHEIMER & CO.'S, CENTRE HALL, and which will be sold at LOWEST FIGURES. They have an immense stock and well assorted in every line. THEY HAVE

Dress Goods, Clothing, Hats & Caps, Boots & Shoes, Notions, Groceries, &c., at Lowest Prices.

IT WILL BE TO YOUR INTEREST TO "PATRONIZE YOUR HOME MERCHANTS," INSTEAD OF GOING AWAY FROM HOME. GIVE US A CALL IMMEDIATELY. KEEPS THE BEST SOLE LEATHER—VERY CHEAP. ISAAC GUGGENHEIMER

THE CHEYENNES.

"Wild Hog" Attempts to Commit Suicide.

Fort Robinson, Neb., January 31.—At noon to-day, it was discovered by a sentinel guarding the building wherein "Wild Hog," a Cheyenne chief, is confined, heavily ironed, that the desperate Indian was lying on the ground in his prison room covered with blood having stabbed himself in four places in the region of the heart, with the intention of putting an end to his life rather than be taken south. The post surgeon pronounced the wounds very dangerous, if not fatal. Thirty-three squaws and twenty-two children left here this morning for the Pine Ridge agency, and will be turned over to the Sioux as that agency as their natural protectors.

CONGRESS AND THE MISSISSIPPI.

[Special Despatch to the World.]

Washington, February 2.—From the present indications it appears unlikely that the present Congress will do much more towards the adoption of measures for the improvement of the Mississippi River than the probable appointment of a commission to quietly mature a plan to be submitted to the next Congress.

MARRIED.

On Jan. 28, by Rev. J. B. Shaver, Prof. Sam'l Emerick, of near Centre Hall, and Miss Julia A. Alexander, of Unionville.

On the 20 ult., at Luth. parsonage, by Rev. W. E. Fischer, William Collins of Bellefonte, and Sarah Johnstonbaugh of State College.

DIED.

On the 25th ult., in Millheim, Mr. Joseph Woodling, aged 80 years.

On Tuesday morning, Jan. 28, 1879, in Milroy, of membraneous croup, Willie, son of Rev. S. G. Shannon, aged 8 years, 7 months and 17 days.

On Jan. 23, at Oak Hall, Margaret, daughter of A. W. Dale, aged 8 months and 27 days.

At Madisonburg, on 25th Jan., Mrs. Raena, widow of George Smeltzer, aged 72 years.

On the 26th ult., at Aaronsburg, Catharine, wife of Philip Stover, aged 63 years, 10 months and 15 days.

Farewell, our dearest friend, farewell;
Our life was one of peace and love,
But thou art gone forever to dwell
With Jesus and the saints above.

Yes, God has called her home to rest,
And here on earth will meet no more;
But hope again with all the blest,
To meet in yonder heavenly rest.
C. B. S.

Spring Mills Market.

—Wheat 90.
Rye, 45c.
Corn, ears, per bu. new, .45c
Oats, 22c.
Buckwheat, 75c.
Cloverseed, $5.00 to $8.75
Chop, per ton, $20.00.
Plaster, ground per ton, $10.00
Flour, per bbl $5.00
Butter, 15c.
Tallow, 6c.
Ham, 8c.
Shoulders, 4c.
Clean Sides, 41c.
Rags, 2c.
Eggs per doz., 20c.
Tub washed wool 35c.
Packed butter worked over, 10c.

	By Car.	Gross.
Coal, Retail,		$4 20
Egg,	$4 65	$4 65
Stove,	$5 00	$5 00
Chestnut,	$4 25	$4 80
Pea,	$2 60	$2 65

TWO VALUABLE FARMS AT PRIVATE SALE!—

The farms are situated in Potter township, Centre county, Pa., about two miles southwest of Centre Hall, and about one mile west of the "Old Fort," in the heart of Penns Valley.

No. 1 containing

215 ACRES, more or less.

About 175 acres cleared, and 40 acres well timbered with thrifty white oak, large BRICK HOUSE, BANK BARN (new) 90x45 feet, Wash House, Bake House, and outbuildings, all in good repair, and an ORCHARD of choice fruit.

No. 2 containing

259 ACRES, more or less.

About 200 acres cleared, and 50 acres well timbered with thrifty white oak, mostly heavy, large BRICK HOUSE, BANK BARN (new) 80x40 feet, Wash House, Wagon Shed, Corn Cribs and other outbuildings, running water at the house and at the barn, and a LARGE ORCHARD.

The farms are under good cultivation; first quality limestone land, and two of the best and most desirable farms in Penns Valley. The Lewisburg, Centre and Spruce Creek Railroad is graded through one of the farms, and when finished will have nearest Station at "Old Fort." Will be sold very low if application be made soon to ADAM ROY,
Bellefonte, Centre county, Pa.

PUBLIC SALE.

Will be sold at public sale, at the residence of the undersigned, near Centre Hill, on FRIDAY, FEB. 14:

FIVE HEAD OF HORSES,
2 Draft Horses, 2 Breeding Mares, 1 young Horse rising 4 years old.
THREE MILK COWS;
1 Threshing Machine, Power, Straw-carrier and Shaker, 1 Hay-fork, 1 Plow, Cultivator, and a lot of Horse-gears.
WAGONS, 1 2-horse Wagon, 1 4-horse Wagon and ladders. Sale to commence at 1 o'clock. JAMES S. CARSON.

NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given that all notes given to the undersigned, and due February 12, 1879, are in the hands of A. Luckenbach, esq., for collection, where parties interested will attend.
30 jan 3t ABRAHAM HORST.

ESTRAY.

Came to the residence of Elias Bistline, in Ferguson township, near Fair Brook school-house, some time in October, 1878, one Brindle Steer, then supposed to be two years old, a piece cut off upper part of left ear, white along under side of belly. The owner is requested to come forward and prove property and take it away, otherwise it will be disposed of according to law.
GEO. ECKEL,
30 jan Town Clerk.

PUBLIC SALE.—

Will be sold at public sale, at CENTRE HALL, on SATURDAY, FEBUARY 8, 1879, the following property: 3 Stoves, 1 Speer Cook, 1 coal stove No. 11, radiant light, 1 small wood stove.

PARLOR SUIT OF FURNITURE, consisting of sofa, cane seated chairs, centre table, &c.

Book case and desk, 1 lounge, 2 setts chairs, carpets, 1 dining table, bureaus, bedsteads, looking glasses, pictures, barrels, tubs, vinegar by gallon, also all kinds of kitchen furniture, potatoes by the bushel, cooked meat, and many other articles. Sale to commence at 1 o'clock, when terms will be made known. P. F. KELLER.

PUBLIC SALE.—

The following farm stock and implements will be sold at public sale, at Centre Hall, Wednesday, Feb. 12th, 1879:

ONE SPAN OF MULES.

3 HORSES, 1 TWO-YEAR OLD COLT, 3 good milk Cows, and 4 or 5 head of Cattle, one Extra Breeding Sow, 2 good plantation Wagons, both broad wheel and one with bed, 1 2-horse Wagon, 1 Spring Wagon, 1 pair Bob-sleds, single Sleigh, a THRESHING MACHINE,

Shaker, Power and Strap, Reaper, Drill, Hayrake, Hayfork and rope, Cornplanter, Plows, Harrows, Cultivators, 1 large 3-horse Cultivator, Blacksmith Tools, Horse Gears of every description, Forks, Rakes, Chains of all kinds, Singletrees and Doubletrees, and many other farming utensils. Sale to commence at 1 o'clock
GEORGE HOFFER.

DESIRABLE PROPERTY FOR RENT.

The well known store stand at Farmer's Mills, with dwelling house, barn, and outbuildings, and about twenty (20) acres of farming land is offered for rent. This is a capital chance to open up business. For particulars call on or address

J. B. FISHER,
16 jan tf. Penn Hall, Pa.

JANUARY JURY LIST.

The following is a List of Grand and Traverse Jurors, for January Session, 1879:

GRAND JURORS—FIRST WEEK.

Bellefonte—B. Valentine, J. D. Kurtz, W. Shortlidge.
Benner—J. W. Marshall.
Ferguson—Amos Boyer, J. K. Rider.
Haines—J. J. Overdorf.
Harris—Henry Frederick.
Howard—Jacob Leathers.
Milesburg—J. M. Green.
Philipsburg—J. H. Genoe.
Potter—Aaron Durst.
Rush—Thos. J. Wason.
Spring—Elias Baney, W. J. Dale, A. Bartholomew, Henry Gentzel.
Taylor—J. Merryman.
Union—Wilson Calhoun, Oscar Musser.
Walker—Ira C. Nolchtley, M. Corman, Jr.
Worth—A. R. Woodring, Alex. Cheney.

TRAVERSE JURORS—SECOND WEEK.

Wm Kaup, Spring.
Frank Knarr, Penn.
Jno Harrison, Spring.
James Antis, Howard.
J W Sweetwood, Gregg.
B F Beck, Walker.
R B Hesterman, Haines.
Jno R Tate, Spring.
Henry Fouts, Spring.
S. B. Leathers, Howard.
Jno Rishell, Benner.
Jasper Brooks, Spring.
Valentine Reese, Union.
W Sterritt, Philipsburg.
Jas Gramley, Walker.
John Decker, Walker.
John T. Harter, Penn.
Em'l Cronemiller, Haines.
Jacob Bitner, Gregg.
Jacob Crotzer, Gregg.
Ed Nolan, Snow Shoe.
John Means, Bellefonte.
Daniel Ulrich, Penn.
J Gensemer, Half Moon.
W M Clellen, Philipsburg.
Jared Kreamer, Miles.
C W Hoekman, Penn.
Michael Confer, Howard.
H S Cowher, Worth.
J G Hess, Ferguson.
J P Seibert, Benner.
Chas Brown, Bellefonte.
Jno Shiffler, Ferguson.
Jno Chambers, Penn.
J S Boal, Harris.
Jacob Weaver, Howard.

TRIAL LIST.—Trial list for the first and second weeks of January Term, 1879, commencing on the 27th day of January, A. D. 1879:

SECOND WEEK.

1 H H Hackman & wife vs J B Henderson.
2 Caroline Cummings vs J B Henderson.
3 Francis Hacker vs J B Henderson.
4 Abbie Grim et al vs J B Henderson.
5 Lazarus Meyer vs John S Gray.
6 Samuel Harpster Admrs vs Centre Hall Man fg Co.
7 J H Linn vs George Walker.
8 H W Hoover et al vs Christ Sharrer.
10 Dan'l Rhoades et al vs Isaac Haupt.
11 J H Long vs H Merriman.
12 John S Gray vs W C McCuetcheon.
13 R F Clow use of vs Derby Coal Co. et al.
14 Isaac Thomas vs J M McCoy.
15 J D Shugert vs C C Keller with clause.
16 E M Shuey vs Samuel Linn.
17 J D Shugert vs J B Morris.
18 Wm Allison, Jr., vs J A Bright.
19 P B Wilson Ex rs vs Thomas K Hicks.
20 Z L Hoover vs Wm P Ard.
21 John Eline vs Wm P Duncan.
22 Wm V Hughes vs Jas L Sommerville.
23 McClellan & Speer vs Wm H Humes.
24 S W McNitt vs W J Thompson.
25 Jacob Neidigh vs J W Sholl.
26 Aldus Weight vs G Dorsey Green.
27 S D Ball use of vs Jacob Yearick.
28 School Dist of Philipsburg vs E Perks et al.
29 T M Hall Trustee vs J P Shope.
30 John McBride's heirs vs W. J. Tibbets.
31 Jacob Bower, Jr. vs B A Y Turnpike Comp.
32 Sophia Rouse vs Joseph Kmriek.

BALD EAGLE NURSERY,

Union-ville, Fleming P. O. Pa.
Fruit, Shade and Ornamental Trees, Vines, &c.
Apple trees 14 cents, or $18 per 100.
Peach trees 12 cents, or $10 per 100.
Pear trees, standards, 45 cents; dwarfs 25 cents.
Shade trees 40 to 50 cents,
Evergreen trees 40 cents.
Grape vines 25 cents.
My trees are thrifty and of approved varieties. WM. P. FISHER.
30 jan 4t.

ANNUAL STATEMENT.—

Office of the F. M. Ins. Company of Centre County, Pa. Centre Hall, Jan. 13, 1879. In compliance with the provisions of their charter the Twenty-first Annual Statement of the transactions of the Company is herewith presented.

ASSETS.

Bills receivable being premium notes due and payable by members for insurance the past year		$35,818.31 804.79
Paid on same		
Leaving due on premium notes taken the past year		34,513.52
To which add tax No. 3	$4,007.15	
Less per cent for collection	203.35	
		3,803.80
Cash in treasury.		502.94
Making the total available assets of the past year.		38,882.26

EXPENSES.

Compensation of directors	$ 250.40
Committees on appraisements.	26.82
Salary of Sec'y.	100.00
" " Treas'r	50.00
Printing, office rent, postage & stationery	188.56
Election board	4.00
Counsel fees	7.80
Henry Neighdigh loss on house and furniture	633.12
W. J. Jackson loss on store	1411.00
J. Brett bal. due on house, (sum on note retained)	17.16
Kustoborder on barn	987.00
J. Hazel on barn	763.28
Mrs. J. W. Conly on house and furniture	1116.72
Total accruing assets and funds of the Company the past year after deducting expenses	5,464.86 83,415.40
To which add notes of 1874, 5, 6 and 7	109,197.01 142,612.41
Minus cash premiums, cancellations, carpenters risks and tax on notes, including tax on notes taken between Jan. 14, and Jan. 28, '78.	10,582,44
Total available assets of the company this day

FOR THE FAIR SEX.

At the Bedside.

Oh, mothers whose children are sleeping,
Thank God by their pillows, to-night;
And pray for the mothers now weeping
O'er pillows too smooth and too white.
Where bright little heads oft have lain,
And soft little cheeks have been pressed;
Oh, mothers who know not this pain,
Take courage and bear all the rest!

For the somber-winged angel is going
With pitiless flight o'er the land,
And we wake in the morn, never knowing,
What he, ere the night, may demand.
Yes, to-night, while our darlings are sleeping,
There's many a soft little bed
Whose pillows are moistened with weeping
For the loss of one dear little head.

There are hearts on whose innermost altar
There is nothing but ashes, to-night;
There are voices whose tones sadly falter,
And dim eyes that shrink from the light.
Oh, mothers whose children are sleeping,
As ye bend to caress the fair heads,
Pray, pray for the mothers now weeping
O'er pitiful, smooth little beds.

News and Notes for Women.

The bridesmaids wore white silk bonnets at a stylish New York wedding.

French girls decorate their sealskin sacques with bright silk buttons.

Fashionable church weddings at San Francisco have violins and piany solos.

English girls click the castanets while skipping the rope.

Mosaic jewelry has reappeared in the ears of French society.

It is a Parisian freak for a woman to put a half-opened fan in the hair instead of a high comb.

See here, girls—why not not call a spoony young man "Rainwater?" Rain water is soft, you know.

Mme. Anderson, the walker, was formerly in the circus ring in England.

The wife of President Porter, of Yale college, has been elected president of the Connecticut training school for nurses.

The lucky horseshoe has become a wedding guest; in wedding invitations the cards admitting guests to the church are made in the shape of a horseshoe.

In Frankfort-on-the-Main, on Saturday evenings, the daughters and wives of the pawnbrokers in the Ghetto drive to the promenade covered with the jewels left in pawn with their fathers and husbands.

A lady in Louisville has a husband who snores. She keeps a clothes-pin under her pillow; and when his snoring awakens her, she puts it on his nose, then sleeps in peace.

One of the cleverest of the lady artists of New York was a society belle. She became weary of her vocation, studied art, and is at present very industrious in her studio, getting, it is said, $600 for every portrait she paints.

One of the chief railway engineers in India has a wife who does not confine herself to domestic and social duties, but interests herself in her husband's business. She has a practical knowledge of the principles of railway construction, and knows a good deal about the details, and she not only exercises supervision over the workmen employed, but even gives orders occasionally which would only be expected from her husband. The workmen are quite accustomed to the lady's presence, and do not resent her interference.

The Real Champion Woman Walker.

A correspondent in Salem, Mass., gives some statistics about Miss Sally Nichols, an estimable lady who died there not long ago at the age of seventy-four years, which will be interesting to female pedestrians. She began to take regular walks for exercise in 1838, and continued them without the intermission of a single day till near the end of 1878. During those fifty years, according to a register which she kept carefully, she walked one hundred and forty-nine thousand and seventy-two miles—never more than twenty nor less than five miles a day. On rainy days she paced up and down a barn floor. This is a better example for imitation than Mrs. Anderson's, who walked 2,700 quarter miles in 2,700 consecutive quarter hours in Brooklyn.

Skating on Artificial Ice.

The whole interior of Gilmore's garden is to be floored. Besides the lumber 50,000 feet of iron pipe have been carried into the garden. These are to be gridironed across the whole floor and filled with a freezing mixture. Then the floor will be flooded and the whole surface transformed into a glassy sheet of ice for skating.

Mr. T. L. Rankin, who for many years has been making ice artificially at the South, has the enterprise in charge. The large steam engine, now in the building, will pump the freezing mixture from a tank 250 feet long, now building under the north gallery. The plan is to cover the wooden floor with a water-proof material or tarpaulin which may be readily taken up. Upon this the pipes will be laid. Ice, pipes and tarpaulin may easily be removed at any time, leaving a ball-room floor soon dried by steam. Professor Gamgee's rink of artificial ice in London measured 14x23 feet. The ice lake in Gilmore's will have a surface area of over 16,000 feet. The first cost will be large, but Mr. Rankin thinks the cost of maintenance will be little. The garden will be warmed as it is now, and so rapid is the congelation from the use of the freezing mixture, that one of the features of the exhibition will probably be the spraying or flooding of the surface each evening and the freezing of the water in twenty minutes. The plan is to throw the garden open daily for all who may wish to skate, reserving seats for such as may wish to look on. Frank Swift has been engaged to attend daily and give lessons in skating, and he and others will give exhibitions of their skill. It is intended also to make a "speeding track" nine feet wide on the present course, on which long-distance skaters may show their speed and endurance. Before Mr. Vanderbilt would consent to this new enterprise he insisted upon a trial experiment. A tank thirty-two feet long was built, in which the pipes were placed. By forcing the freezing mixture through them with a hand-pump water was turned to dry ice inside of ten minutes, and when a fresh surface was asked for two bucketfuls of water thrown upon the ice became dry, hard ice in the same number of minutes. During the holiday week this pond was maintained, and so well satisfied was Mr. Vanderbilt with the test that arrangements were at once made with Mr. Rankin for the use of his appliances. Mr. Rankin says the lake will be ready for use three days after the floor is laid. Next summer Mr. Rankin will remove a portion of the piping to Coney island and establish there a skating rink, while another section will do duty at Long Branch.—*New York World.*

A Mystery of the Great Lakes.

There is a mystery about the American lakes. Lake Erie is only sixty to seventy feet deep. Lake Ontario is 532 feet deep, 230 feet below the tide level of the ocean, or as low as most parts of the gulf of St. Lawrence; and the bottom of lakes Huron, Michigan and Superior, although the surface is much higher, are all from their vast depths on a level with the bottom of Ontario. Now, as the discharge through the river Detroit, after allowing for the probable portion carried off by evaporation, does not appear by any means equal to the quantity of water which the three upper lakes receive, it has been conjectured that a subterranean river may run from lake Superior, by Huron, to lake Ontario. This conjecture is not impossible, and accounts for the singular fact that salmon and herring are caught in all the lakes communicating with the St. Lawrence, but no others. As the falls of Niagara must have always existed, it would puzzle the naturalist to say how these fish got into the upper lakes without some subterranean river; moreover, any periodical obstruction of the river would furnish a not improbable solution of the mysterious flux and reflux of the lakes.—*The American Ship.*

A Congressman's Funeral.

When a Congressman dies at Washington while Congress is in session, it is customary to hold the funeral services at the capitol, as in the recent instances of the late Representatives Hartridge and Schleicher. To give our readers an idea of the manner in which this impressive ceremony is conducted, we append the following description of the scene connected with Mr. Schleicher's funeral:

The government in all its branches, legislative, judicial and executive, met in the hall of the House at 12 o'clock. The House met and adjourned, and the Senate soon afterward receiving the formal message of the House, adjourned too.

The House met at 3 o'clock. The Speaker, with white sash over his shoulder, fastened by a rosette of black and white, took his seat before thronged desks and filled seats, and gave a single rap with his gavel. The swinging doors were pushed open. A tall, white-headed man walked in, so often the head of this procession, and behind him, two and two, came the Senate, the sergeant-at-arms, French, leading, a rosette of black and white for some inscrutable reason on his shoulder. The door-keeper turned. "Mr. Speaker," he shouted, as a man must to be heard one hundred feet. The Speaker arose. "The Senate of the United States," said Field, as the head of the procession passed abreast of him.

"The Senate of the United States," said the Speaker, like an echo, and his hammer fell with a single sharp tap as the pausing procession moved on. The House arose, and, through its standing ranks, the Senate passed to its seats. Before those seats in a curving line, were the green chairs set to the left and right of the Speaker for the federal judiciary and the federal executive. Successively there came the same same announcement: "Mr. Speaker, the Supreme Court of the United States;" and "Mr. Speaker, the President of the United States;" and each time the gavel fell the House and Senate arose; and first, a file of men in silk gowns, rustline somewhat, and then another of men in overcoats, just from out doors, stepped to their seats.

There was no announcement at the next approach. The doors were held back, and the doorkeeper advanced and turned and walked before the pall-bearers, with long white scarfs. Behind them men walked with a heavy burden, flower-covered, and behind them the dead man's delegation, the associates of his official life. The great audience rose. The coffin was slowly lowered. The mourners and the pall bearers sat in the seats left them. The gavel fell. The crowded ranks sat again, and the chaplain of the House, rising in the high marble desk, began: "I am the resurrection and the life." Briefly the chaplain went from passage to passage of the simple service. There was an impressiveness in the bold absence of music, in the gavel and the mace behind him, the notebooks and pencils of the official reporters below. It was, nevertheless, the Senate and House of Representatives in joint session assembled. It was all soon over. No word was said. Men stepped forward and raised the coffin. Behind it the guests of the House followed in order they had entered—the President and the cabinet, the Supreme Court, and the Senate. The House adjourned. The public funeral was over.

Failure Figures for 1878.

From the annual circular of the mercantile agency of R. G. Dun & Co., we learn that the total number of failures in the United States for 1878 were 10,478, with liabilities amounting to $234,000,000. This shows an increase over 1877 of 1,606 in number, and $40,000,000 in amount. The gradual growth of these casualties is shown in the following statement for the seven years since 1872, with the average liabilities for each year:

Year.	Number.	Total Liabilities.	Average Liabilities.
1878.....	10,478	$234,383,132	$22,369
1877.....	8,872	190,669,936	21,491
1876.....	9,092	191,117,786	21,020
1875.....	7,740	201,060,353	25,977
1874.....	5,830	159,239,000	27,313
1873.....	5,183	228,499,900	44,086
1872.....	4,069	121,056,000	29,750

The following table indicates the geographical sections in which the failures for the past year have occurred, with the average, etc., in each locality:

STATES.	No. in Busi-ness.	No. Fail-ures.	Amt. of Lia-bilities.	Aver-age Lia-bilities.
Eastern States.....	19,765	1,724	$48,294,726	$20,364
Middle States.....	36,000	3,000	80,000,000	26,666
Southern States.....	96,297	1,415	26,222,967	18,529
Western States.....	294,753	3,439	79,865,443	18,716
Pacific States & Ter.	28,261	694	19,164,776	18,967
Total for the U. S....	474,741	10,478	254,383,132	22,369
Dominion of Canada..	36,347	1,097	12,808,677	14,088

The circular states that "it is very easy to account for the increase of 1,606 failures among 700,000 business men within a year in which the circumstances have been peculiarly influential in encouraging casualties of this character." These circumstances are stated at five in number, as follows: 1878 is the fifth year of a depression unparelleled in extent, character and duration; the weather for the first quarter of the year was unseasonable, and thus most unfavorable for sales and collections; the discussions in and out of Congress as to financial matters and the tariff, impaired confidence for the time being; the notable decline in the value of staples the world over; the existence of the epidemic in the South; and, finally, more influential than all others, was the abolishing of the bankrupt law and the long delay permitted to elapse before its repeal."

The circular then proceeds:

"In view, therefore, of the peculiarities of the year under review, it is submitted that an increase of failures to the extent of only 1,606 in number, and forty millions in liabilities, is even much less than might have been anticipated. It is significant that out of the six leading circumstances above enumerated as contributing to failures during the year, five no longer exist. In the room of these disturbing elements other favorable conditions are present, which ought, in the immediate future, to so much improve business as to make the decrease of failures in 1879 much more marked than the increase in 1878."

The Hangmen's Record.

In the United States during the past year ninety-six murderers (all men) were hanged—an increase of thirteen over the record for the previous year. Of this number forty-one were white, fifty-two colored, two Indians and one Chinaman. Five were hanged for outrage, and four for wife murder. There were seven double executions, four triple and two quadruple. Friday retains the reputation as hangman's day, seventy executions having taken place on that day. The largest number in any one month was in March; twenty-five executions having then occurred. Seventy per cent. of the hangings were in the Southern States, and nearly two-thirds of the victims were colored. In Texas there were ten; Louisiana, nine; Alabama, eight; South Carolina, eight; North Carolina, eight; Pennsylvania, six; Missouri, five; Georgia, five; Tennessee, four; Arkansas, four; California, four; New York, three; Kentucky, Virginia, Montana, Delaware, Ohio, Mississippi and Maryland, each two; Massachusetts, Arizona, Florida, New Hampshire, Indiana and Nevada, each one.—*New York Herald.*

What Shortens Life.

From a review in the *Scientific American* of certain statistics furnished by one Dr. Parr, of England, it appears that that highly-learned gentleman lays down the proposition that, "The nearer people live to each other, the shorter their lives are." According to the doctor's theory if we live 400 feet apart we are likely to live on an average of fifty years, 300 feet apart forty years, sixty feet apart thirty years, twenty feet apart twenty-five years, and that by contracting the interspace beyond the limit of twenty feet we must necessarily reduce the average of our existence to twenty, fifteen, and ten years, and finally annihilation. Deductions are drawn from the densest and most unwholesome districts of England, the continent, and America to support the proposition that density of population shortens human existence.

CLAY ON CROWS.

Cassius M. Clay Raises His Voice in Behalf of the Birds—What Keeps From Us the Plagues of Egypt.

Cassius M. Clay writes to the Richmond *Register* as follows: I was pained to see in your journal lately an account of the slaughtering of the crows, without protest.

Nature seems to have provided for the greatest sum of animal life. First vegetables, then insects, and then higher animals, man standing at the apex. All insectivorous birds are the allies of man; without birds the human race would have a hard struggle for existence, and would perhaps be exterminated. Over all the world the great breeders of famine—the locusts and grasshoppers—are ruinous only where birds cannot exist.

The swarms of locusts, which the Bible tells infested Egypt, exist yet, and will exist until trees shall be planted or caused to grow in all places where grass grows; then the birds will have come and destroyed the locusts. So the same law prevails in interior Africa and in the United States. All along the Platte river for hundreds of miles, wherever I saw a few trees and shrubs there were hawks hovering over to pounce down upon and destroy the birds. The prairie chickens are destroyed by man, and between those two allies the birds are lost and the locusts spread ruin; every green thing is eaten, and men fly for life to other lands or perish!

The phylloxera in France, a small insect, has inflicted, by the ruin of the vine, more loss than the German war! In early years our State was full of woodpeckers and kindred birds. They ate some apples and other fruit; our fathers destroyed them. Then our vegetables were fine and perfect; after the birds have been killed we are overrun with insects; perfect fruit and vegetables are now almost unknown.

I believe that the quails or partridges, though grasnivorous, also destroy many insects. Whilst all our other birds feed mostly upon insects, every bird has his special habitat. The swallows, several species in Kentucky, feed on the wing; the owls upon the tips of trees and leaves—pinching off insects, often unseen by the natural eye. The wren and sparrow are very active feeders near and upon the ground. When the peas are sown I have observed the sparrows following the lines and picking up the pea bugs as they emerge from the ground. There are many birds which peck the rose bush and grapevines. All the woodpecker and sapsucker tribe eat bugs and not sap.

For many years I have kept a box nailed to a tree near my library window; I feed about a quart of crumbs and hominy a day. Last winter I counted fourteen varieties eating them, among others, the beautiful red-birds, which, though naturally shy, have become almost as tame as the sparrows. I had rather a sportsman would shoot down and carry off a pig than one of these beautiful songsters!

And now with this preface I come to the crows. For long years I have ceased my early war upon the crows. They are eminently insectivorous. The crow, when the weather is very cold, will eat the eyes of weak, prostrate lambs, other birds' eggs and young; take corn from the ground when it is first sprouted, and follow and eat the soft, half-digested corn from fed cattle in the fields. But for all this they should never be killed. In many lands the buzzard, as a scavenger, is protected by law. The crow is also a most active scavenger, but, as I said, is mostly insectivorous. I dissected young crows in the nest, and never found a seed or grain of corn. I found bugs, beetles and, above all, caterpillars. This morning, all over my bluegrass pasture, the mercury standing at twenty-eight degrees Fahrenheit, and a thin crust of frozen earth and a fine snow existing, there were thousands of crows feeding. They were eating grass and the eggs of grasshoppers.

In France the government pays a price for the gathering of these eggs. Here the crows do the work much more effectively for nothing. I have in my life seen whole meadows stripped of blade and seed by grasshoppers. Who can say that the crows do not keep us from famine! The announcement by your paper of the destruction of the crows struck me with the same sensibility as if one had boasted that he had dried up all the wells and all the springs of the county! Should I arouse the State to pass efficient laws for the protection of crows and other birds, I will have done more for my country than all the politicians and warriors so justly made illustrious.

Dumas as a Duellist.

One night at the theater of S n Carlo, Naples, Dumas the elder (the celebrated French novelist), found himself chatting familiarly with a stranger who, when the play was over, said to him patronizingly:

"I have greatly enjoyed your conversation, sir, and hope to see more of you. If ever you visit Paris call on me. I am Alexander Dumas."

"The deuce you are! So am I!" replied the novelist, with a roar of laughter.

By the way, Dumas left Naples under peculiar circumstances.

One fine morning he printed an article in which he handled the Italian people in a manner more vigorous than courteous.

At eight o'clock the paper came out; by ten Dumas received thirty challenges; by noon, sixty. At one P. M. he called a meeting of the 120 friends of his challengers, and said unto them:

"Gentlemen, I leave Naples to-night, and therefore have not time to fight all your principals singly. Nevertheless I am anxious to give them all the satisfaction that is in my power, so as I have the choice of weapons I propose fighting with pistols; your sixty principals will be collected into a group, and on receiving the word fire a volley at me and I'll blaze away into the crowd."

The proposition was not accepted.

Arm, Head and Shoulder Sentenced.

A correspondent tells a story about Judge Kent that is interesting. A case of burglary was being tried before him. The prisoner's name was Cowdry, and the evidence showed that he had cut a hole through a rubber tent, in which several persons were sleeping, large enough to admit his arm and head, and had abstracted several articles of value. His counsel took the ground that the prisoner, having only reached into the tent, had not "entered" it, and that on this technicality the defendant should be discharged.

In his charge to the jury, Judge Kent, with a grim smile, alluded to the plea of the prisoner's counsel, and instructed them that, if they were in doubt as to the guilt of the whole man, they might bring him in guilty as far as they judged the evidence would warrant, and the jury, after a brief period of consultation, brought in a verdict against Thomas Cowdry, the prisoner at the bar, of guilty to the full letter of the indictment as to his right arm, his right shoulder and his head.

And the judge sentenced the arm, the shoulder and the head of said Thomas Cowdry to imprisonment at hard labor in State prison for the term of two years. The prisoner might do with the remainder of his body what he pleased.—*Bangor (Me.) Whig.*

"Pith and Point."

Why don't some venturous barber of the right stripe open a shop at the North pole?

How strange it is that a plain, blunt man usually makes very pointed remarks.

Ice cream will be cheap next summer if the milkmen are willing and the cows liberal.

If a race-horse hadn't free use of all four feet, its owner would more than likely forfeit the stakes.

A mail-carrier's protest against his wife's scolding: "Oh, madam, letters have peace!" she stamped on him.

Cultivate modesty, morality and mustaches. None are expensive, for no fertilizers are required.—*New York News.*

Protection Against Cold.

The London *Medical Press and Circular* says: As hygiene is the order of the day, we cannot be too particular in impressing upon the public certain facts which are too often disregarded. Few are aware of the killing powers of intense cold and great heat, even in this comparatively temperate climate. Those who have been in the habit, as we have, of watching the returns of the registrar-general, well know how quickly the death-rate rises during even a short continuance of cold weather. Now, the fact that the increase in the mortality affects chiefly the young and the old, as well as those who are either suffering from, or are predisposed to, affections of the chest and throat, indicates the class of people who should be especially careful to protect themselves against the inclemency of the weather. With regard to children, the system of "hardening" them, by allowing them to go thinly clad, and exposing them to all sorts of weather, is a delusion from which the minds of some parents are even now not altogether free. It is thought that if their chests are kept warm, there is no need of caring about their arms or legs. But that is a great mistake. In proportion as the upper and lower extremities are well clothed will the circulation be kept up and determined to the surface of those parts, and in proportion to the quickness and equable distribution of the circulation will be the protection against those internal congestions which are but the first stage of the most fatal diseases of infancy and childhood. The same observation holds good with respect to grown-up people who are predisposed to pulmonary complaint. There is no exaggeration in saying that the mortality from these and other affections would be considerably diminished were people to avoid that "catching cold" of which they so often and so lightly speak; and it is a matter of surprise to us that this fact, of which most of us are aware, does not lead to more precautions being taken by those who are anxious about either their own health or that of others. To take care that the body is thoroughly warm and well-clothed just before going out in very wet or very cold weather—to keep up the circulation and warmth of the body rather by exercise of some kind than by sitting over great fires or in overheated rooms—to be sure that the temperature of the sleeping apartment is not even so many degrees below that of the sitting-room—these are three golden maxims, attention to which would prevent thousands from catching that "chill" or "cold" to the results of which so many valuable lives have been prematurely sacrificed.

They Missed the Boots.

The good folks of Agen, a small French town, were not to be so easily cheated out of what they came to see. A strolling troupe, of whom young Hortense Schneider was one, announced "Le Tour de Nesle" for their last performance. An overflow resulted. The actors were in high spirits and full of fun. Mademoiselle Schneider, discovering an old pair of russet boots behind the scenes, put them by way of a joke into the hands of Buridan as he was going on the stage. Accepting of the awkward handful, he placed the boots on a table on the stage and quietly went through his part, when another actor of the name of Philippe d'Aulnay took possession and made his exit with one under each arm. In the next act, Marguerite de Bourgogne entered, carrying the mysterious boots, and passed them to Gaultier d'Aulnay; he turned them over to Orsini; in short, before the curtain fell, the boots, though foreign to the piece, had been borne in succession by every personage.

The audience watched for their appearance, while wondering what it all meant, and applauded the players to their hearts' content. Twelve months afterward another company set up their bills in Agen, and "La Tour de Nesle" attracted everybody to the theater; but before the first act was over there were symptoms of displeasure, which gradually increased, until the uproar was so great that the curtain fell on a half-played piece; benches were torn up, lights put out, and only the arrival of the mayor at the head of a troop of soldiers put an end to the tumult. Then the mayor turned on the poor manager, who protested his inability to understand how the riot came about. "That is all nonsense," returned the mayor. "Your conduct is disgraceful. You have misled the people and mutilated a masterpiece. Where are the boots?"

A Winter Evening Game.

The players sit in a row, and the first says: "I am going on a journey to Albany," or any place beginning with an A. The one seated next to her says: "What will you do there?" The verbs and nouns in the answer must begin with the same letter, and so on through the alphabet; the one who asks the question "What will you do there?" continuing the game. But as an example is better than any directions, we will relate to you how a party of children played it:

Ellen—I am going on a journey to Albany.

Louisa—What will you do there?

Ellen—Ask for apples and apricots.

Louisa—(To her next neighbor) I am going to Boston.

Frank—What will you do there?

Louisa—Buy bonnets and buns.

Frank—I am going to college.

Susan—What will you do there?

Frank—Cut capers.

Susan—I am going to Dover.

Sarah—What will you do there?

Susan—Dress dolls.

Sarah—I am going to Erie.

Russel—What will you do there?

Sarah—Eat eggs.

Russel—I am going to Fairhaven.

Grace—What will you do there?

Russel—Feed fawns with frogs.

Grace—I am going to Greenbush.

Howard—What will you do there?

Grace—Give gold to girls.

Howard—I am going to Hanover.

Sarah—What will you do there?

Howard—Hunt with hounds and horses.

The party goes through the alphabet in the above manner. Whoever cannot answer readily, after due time is allowed, must suffer some penalty.

Bishop Simpson on Stimulants.

In his third Yale lecture Bishop Simpson advises the young men who are entering the ministry to avoid all stimulants, and in connection with this advice gives a bit of information which is not generally known: "I would scarcely suppose that any one who feels himself called to the ministry will countenance their use; yet kind friends will sometimes suggest that you are weak, your nerves are tremulous, you have been out in the cold, you need a stimulant, and they will urge the taking of a little wine or brandy before preaching. These friends will tell you that the most distinguished ministers are in the habit of using them; and I regret to say that in many churches both wine and brandy are there kept in the vestry for the use of the minister, both before and after preaching." He further says: "I have known some young ministers who have used a few drops of paregoric or opium to give them strength for the pulpit. I am glad to say that I have known but few such cases; but I must add that these were led in the end to either physical or moral ruin." And in passing, he fires a shot at the clerical cigar: "I suppose there is a sort of enjoyment connected with it, for I have seen men sit for an hour smoking, with their feet upon a table, professing to be studying. I have no doubt they had visions of greatness and glory; but prolonged observation shows that their lives usually ended, with their cigar, in smoke."

A sailor on board a vessel in the harbor of Zante having been struck by lightning, there was found on his breast the number 44, being an exact copy of the same figures on a part of the ship's rigging.

To give good accounts of your competitors inspires the belief in your own prosperity.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

Eastern and Middle States.

Charles Ulrich and Henry C. Cole, two of the most notorious counterfeiters in the country, have been captured by United States officers after some months of watching in Philadelphia and other places. All the most skillful counterfeits of national bank notes executed during the past few years were the work of Ulrich, who was among the best engravers in the United States; while Cole has handled and passed more spurious money than any other person in the country.

Twenty-four Princeton college students, occupying two large sleighs, were arrested in the streets of Trenton, N. J., for disorderly conduct, and fined $3.80 each.

Matthew T. Brennan, ex-sheriff of New York, and for a long time prominently identified with local politics, is dead in his fifty-seventh year.

Senator Conkling was renominated for the third time to the United States Senate by the Republican legislative caucus, the Democratic caucus nominating Lieutenant-Governor Dorsheimer.

A billiard tournament for the championship of the world and money prizes, was opened in the Cooper institute, New York.

A skating rink of artificial ice has been opened in Gilmore's garden, New York.

Mrs. Pennypacker was thrown from a sleigh at Trappe, Pa., kicked in the temple by the runaway horse and instantly killed.

The destruction by fire of John Brown & Sons' woolen mill in Philadelphia, caused a loss of over $200,000.

John Blair Scribner, head of the publishing house of Charles Scribner's Sons, died in New York a few days ago, aged about twenty-eight years.

United States Senators from the following Eastern and Middle States have been elected: New York, Roscoe Conkling, Republican; Connecticut, Orville H. Platt, Republican; Pennsylvania, J. Donald Cameron, Republican.

George S. Hillard, American author, died at his residence in Longwood, Mass., a few days since, aged sixty-seven years.

Many political clubs and visiting organizations took part in the inaugural ceremonies of Governor Hoyt, at Harrisburg, Pa. The new governor read his inaugural address after the parade, and in the evening there was a display of fireworks and a public reception.

The Marquis of Lorne (Canada's governor-general), and his wife, the Princess Louise (Queen Victoria's daughter), visited Niagara Falls, and crossing over on the American side, paid their first visit to the United States.

Judson's bank, at Ogdensburg, N. Y., one of the oldest and most trusted institutions in northern New York, suspended, owing depositors in the neighborhood of $400,000. Mr. Judson expressed a belief that if his creditors were moderate he would be able to pay them in full.

A large meeting of Socialists was held in New York to protest against Bismarck's restrictive policy in Germany.

That people cannot be too careful in handling kerosene lamps has been sadly illustrated in Hyde Park, Pa., where Mrs. Davis and her one year-old child were burned to death by a fire caused by an exploded lamp.

William O'Brien and two sons were found burned to death in the ashes of their camp fire, at Millbury Brook, Pa.

About three thousand people were present at the formal opening of the New York State Soldiers' and Sailors' Home in Bath, N. Y.

Western and Southern States.

The entire business portion of Allensville, Ky., has been destroyed by fire.

William G. Coffin, teller in a Cincinnati bank, lived a fast life, and has ended with absconding with over $10,000 of the institution's funds.

The greater part of the Catholic church property in Cincinnati has been turned over to a board of trustees in the interests of creditors of Archbishop Purcell, with whom many members of the church deposited their savings, and who recently became financially embarrassed.

The United States grand jury, at St. Louis, have indicted the president, cashier and one director of the broken National bank of the State of Missouri, for fraudulent practices in connection with the business of that institution. No indictment was brought by the jury against Capt. Eads, the well-known engineer, as was at one time reported.

John Holson, engineer, and Michael Burke, blacksmith, were fatally injured by an explosion of dynamite in the Gunpowder Water Works, near Baltimore.

Governor-elect John W. Hall, of Delaware, was inaugurated at Dover, making a brief address.

Three men were killed and three more severely injured by the explosion of the boiler in Hahn & Rand's sawmill, at Chase, Mich.

A Florida jury found the Brevard county canvassing board—including the sheriff and a justice of the peace—guilty of falsifying returns in the late congressional election.

Matt. H. Carpenter (Republican) has been elected by the Wisconsin legislature to succeed Senator Howe in the United States Senate.

The survivors of the band of Cheyenne Indians who made a bold dash for liberty recently from Fort Robinson, Neb., preferring death to removal to the Indian Territory, were pursued by troops forty-six miles from the prison, and twenty-nine of them were killed after a desperate resistance, while only nine were taken prisoners—the savages refusing to surrender and fighting stubbornly to the last. Several soldiers were killed or wounded.

From Washington.

The Teller Senate investigation committee has ended its labors in New Orleans and there all unfinished work in Marks and B. F. Jonas, respectively representing the majority and minority of the committee.

The Geneva award bill has been passed in the House. The bill divides claims into three classes. For damages done by Confederate cruisers on the high seas, for additional interest on previous judgments, and for loss incurred by the payment of war premiums of insurance.

United States Senators from the following States have been chosen: Illinois, General John A. Logan, Republican; North Carolina, Gov. Z. B. Vance, Democrat; Florida, Wilkinson Call, Democrat; Missouri, General James Shields and Colonel George C. Vest, both Democrats, for short and long terms, respectively.

A contract has been completed between the secretary of the treasury and Messrs. N. M. Rothschild & Sons, J. S. Morgan & Co., Seligman Bros., and Morton, Rose & Co. of London, and Messrs. A. Belmont & Co., Drexel, Morgan & Co., J. & W. Seligman & Co. and Morton, Bliss & Co. of New York, for the sale and delivery in Europe of not less than $5,000,000 per month of four per cent. bonds, upon the same terms and conditions as the popular loan now being offered in the United States, the contract to continue until the first day of July, the proceeds to be applied to refunding six per cent. bonds.

At the first meeting of the Potter committee after the inquiry into the cipher dispatches had been ordered by the House, General Butler made a long explanation, during which he said that after the investigation was ordered last summer he found a bundle on his desk in his office, which came from he knew not where, and which, on examination, he found to contain cipher telegrams. Some were original and others office copies. They were submitted by him to the committee last summer, but no notice was taken of them, and they remained in charge of the chief of the committee for some time, when, with a printed copy of the testimony, they were sent to his office, tied up in a paper and addressed, "Mr. Butler. They lay about his office all summer, uncared for, because he did not know that they had been sent there, and no one else knew what they were. Since the opening of the present session he began to look them up and asked the clerk of the committees about them. But the clerk had forgotten all existence, and it was not until a considerable row was raised and a general search was made that they were found. Now he was willing to turn them over to the committee if it wanted them, but he advised them, both sides, to have nothing to do with them. But if the committee insisted he would dump them in on one condition: that they be at once printed for the use of the committee. There were 641 telegrams in the package.

The Potter committee have received the cipher dispatches from General Butler, and adopted resolutions providing for their translation by an expert. The following resolution, off red by Mr. Reed, of the committee, was accepted: "Whereas, Mr. Hewitt, of New York, in his place in the House, after alleging that Mr. Samuel J. Tilden has been charged with the cipher dispatches, has demanded that Mr. Tilden have an opportunity to face his accusers before a competent tribunal; therefore, Resolved, That a copy of this resolution and of the resolution directing this committee to investigate the cipher dispatches be sent to Mr. Tilden, and that Mr. Tilden be allowed to be represented by counsel in the same manner and under the same limitations as a person arraigned under the ordinary resolution constituting this committee."

Foreign News.

There will be no international boat race between the Harvard college and Oxford university crews, the latter declining to row on account of the lateness of date named by the former.

General Grant, accompanied by Mrs. Grant, their son Fred and a few others, left Paris on their way to India.

A revolution has broken out in Venezuela in favor of Guzman Blanco.

The printers of Leipzig, Germany, held a memorial service in honor of the late Bayard Taylor.

Weston, the American pedestrian, has started to walk 2 000 miles in 1,000 hours, on the public roads of England. By the terms of the contest he will refrain from walking on Sunday, and will also deliver a lecture in forty of the different towns through which he passes.

Severe cold weather and the prevalence of much suffering and destitution in all parts of Great Britain are reported.

Eight men were drowned by the capsizing of a boat in the river at Antwerp.

Capt. Adams, of the steamer Ralston, who arrived recently at Queenstown, has made a statement which, if true, would indicate that the days of piracy on the high seas were not altogether gone. He writes that when he was about fifty miles west of Fastnet he saw a vessel on fire, and near the burning wreck was an iron steamship, painted black, with about two hundred men on board, who wore a blue uniform and seemed to be English. Upon inquiring whether he could be of any service, Capt. Adams was told by some one on the steamer that he had better keep on his cruise or he would burn, too, and that if he made any report of what he had seen he had best look out for himself on his next voyage.

CONGRESSIONAL SUMMARY.

Senate.

Mr. Sanlsbury offered a long resolution calling upon the secretary of the treasury for information in regard to the compensation paid to bankers, syndicates, firms and individuals in negotiating the sale of bonds since 1862, and also in regard to various other matters connected with the financial operations of the government. Mr. Morrill objected, and, consequently, the resolution was laid aside.... Mr. Wallace requested that he and Mr. Bayard be excused from further service on the Teller investigating committee, and after some discussion the request was granted. Adjourned.

Bills were introduced by Mr. Cockrell: To provide a uniform national currency; to refire the notes of the national banks, and to prohibit their incorporation and their issue of notes; to utilize silver and silver coin, and provide for the issue of coin and bullion certificates; to provide for the redemption or payment of the bonds of the United States and the issue of bonds bearing a lower rate of interest, and to provide for expansion and contraction of the paper currency to meet the business interests and wants of the people. Laid on the table.... Mr. Morgan reported a series of resolutions (which had been agreed upon by the Democrats in caucus, as a substitute for those recently introduced by Mr. Edmunds) reaffirming the fact that the thirteenth, fourteenth and fifteenth amendments are as binding as any other part of the constitution, and declaring that the punishment of violators of election rights rests with the State government, and not with the United States. Adjourned. After reporting the patent bill and holding an executive session.

Mr. Morrill reported, without amendment, the House bill to facilitate the funding of the national debt. Placed on the calendar.... Mr. Withers introduced a bill creating a national board of public health; another bill of similar import was introduced by Mr. Matthews. After discussing the naval appropriation bill the Senate held an executive session and then adjourned.

The bill providing for the exchange of four per cent. bonds for uncalled five-twenties was passed.... Mr. Edmunds moved to consider the resolution regarding the last three constitutional amendments, but, after some debate, the motion was lost and the consideration of the naval appropriation bill resumed. Mr. Blaine addressed the Senate in support of the amendments offered by him looking to the reduction of naval expenses. He argued that it was useless to maintain so large a navy when we had no commercial marine to protect, and asked Congress to appropriate a portion of the money spent in the support of the navy toward building up our commercial interests. Mr. Beck and Mr. Edmunds opposed Mr. Blaine's amendments, and they were withdrawn. The bill was then read a third time and passed.... Mr. Edmunds again moved to take up his constitutional amendments resolutions, but Mr. Tharman moved to adjourn, which was carried.

Mr. Burnside reported, without amendment, the bill appropriating $250,000 for the education of the blind, and it was placed on the calendar.... The conference committee on the consular and diplomatic appropriation bill made a report, which was adopted, and the bill passed.... Mr. Edmunds withdrew his motion to take up his resolutions regarding the validity of the last three constitutional amendments in order to make a formality of the Senate was diverse to considering the resolutions it was useless to take up the Senate's time.... The bill amending the patent laws was passed.... The bill appropriating $60,000 for transporting coin and bullion, with several amendments for paying miscellaneous expenses, was passed, and the Senate then went into executive session, and soon after adjourned.

House.

Under the regular call of the States, a large number of bills were introduced, among them being one to prevent the adulteration of food and drink; one to repeal all laws regarding the appointment and pay of election supervisors; and one by Mr. Springer, of Illinois, equalizing the representation of the various States in Congress. Mr. Potter asked leave to offer a resolution for the investigation of the cipher dispatches, but Mr. Butler objected.

The bill for the settlement of outstanding claims against the District of Columbia was then considered in committee of the whole and passed. Adjourned.

Mr. Potter called up his resolution directing and inves tigationinto the cipher telegrams. Speeches were] made by Messrs. Potter, Hale Conger and Hewitt in favor of the resolution and by Mr. Butler against it. The resolution was then voted down without a division, the Republican members refraining from voting.... Mr. Stephens, from the committee on coinage, introduced a bill to authorize the coinage of the goloid metric dollar, five dollars and fractions of a dollar. Adjourned.

Mr. Stephens, of Georgia, introduced a bill defining and describing the duties of the secretary of the treasury in certain cases.... After eulogies in honor of the late Representative Douglas the House pronounced by Messrs. Goode, Pollard, Hooker, Walker, Springer, Dunnell, Pridemore, Clark and Tucker, and resolutions in honor of his memory had been passed, the House adjourned.

The conference report on the consular and diplomatic bill was agreed to.... Mr. Cox reported a bill for taking the national census, and Mr. Blount the post-office appropriation bill.... The House then went into committee of the whole on the bill applying the proceeds of the public lands to the education of the people. After a sharp debate, the committee rose without taking action.... Mr. Hewitt reported the army appropriation bill. The House then took a recess from 6 to 8 P. M., after which the bill classifying mail matter was discussed without action. Adjourned.

A Poisoned Valley.

Near Batten, in Java, is a poisoned valley. It is known by the name of Guevo Upas, or Poisoned Valley; and following a path which had been made for the purpose, a visiting party shortly reached it, with a couple of dogs and fowls, for the purpose of making experiments. On arriving at the mountain, the party dismounted and scrambled up the side of the hill, at the distance of a mile, with the assistance of the branches of trees and projecting roots. When at a few yards from the valley a nauseous, su